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AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIX.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 19th June, at No. 6, Caine Road, the wife of F. DE P. V. SOARES, of a daughter.

On the 20th June, at the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, the wife of S. R. MOORE, of a son.

On the 25th June, at the Government Civil Hospital, Mrs. HANSON, the wife of Chief Detective Inspector HANSON, of a son.

MARRIAGES

On the 20th June, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Anping, South Formosa, and afterwards at the house of the bride's father, by the Rev. Wm. Campbell, F.R.G.S., ELIZABETH HEWITSON, eldest daughter of R. J. HASTINGS, Formosa, to HARRY WALTER ARTHUR, eldest son of W. M. B. ARTHUR, Gravesend, England, formerly of Hongkong.

On the 26th June, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. P. de Gabardi, CARMEN MARIA DE LOURDES, only daughter of A. F. J. SOARES, property broker, Hongkong, to JOSE M. ALVES, of L. M. ALVES & Co., Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 10th June, at midnight, at Yokohama, HELEN, the beloved wife of ALEXANDER WRIGHT, of Shanghai.

On the 14th June, at Hangchow, of consumption, ALFRED ARRAND SYKES, aged 32 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 24th May arrived, per the s.s. *Roon*, on Tuesday the 21st inst., and the French Mail of the 27th May is expected to arrive, per the s.s. *Tonkin*, some time to-day.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK

Telegrams relating to the war will be found on p. 469.

Habitual opium eaters are rejected by agents recruiting in China for the Rand mines.

The Glasgow steamer *Kirkdale* has been sold to Japan. The *Kirkdale* is a steamer of 3,034 tons gross, built in 1894.

The *China Times* announces the impending retirement of Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

It has been officially decided that the "head tax" imposed upon foreigners entering the United States does not apply to Filipinos who desire to enter that country.

Quarantine at Saigon against vessels arriving from Hongkong, Swatow and Amoy has been reduced to 48 hours observation provided no cargo or passengers are on board.

Captain George F. King Hall, who was one of the Commissioners who on behalf of Great Britain took over Weihaiwei on lease from China in 1898, has been promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge was received by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace on the 13th ult. upon relinquishing his appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the China squadron.

The Peninsula and Oriental Steamship Company's s.s. *Australia* struck on the rocks at Point Nepean on the 20th inst., and is expected to be a total loss. The passengers and mails were safely landed at Adelaide.

From *L'Indo-Chinois* we learn that plague has been very prevalent among the natives at Quang-tschou-wan, but there have only been four cases among the Europeans, who number inclusive of the troops between 600 and 700.

From the Foochow *Daily Echo* on the 11th inst., which came to hand by yesterday's mail, we learn that during the preceding week the steamers *Sachsen*, *Glenturret*, and *Prometheus* took away between them about 3,860,000 lbs. of tea.

Messrs. McGregor Bros and Gow inform us that they are in receipt of the following telegram:—S.S. *Glentochy* has put back to Aden with propeller shaft broken, and will probably be detained two months repairing the damage.

The eldest son of Li Hung-chang, Li Pei-hsing, whose term of mourning shortly expires, is likely to be summoned to Peking to receive an appointment in the Wai Wu Pu, it is said. He is a fluent English speaker and has spent some time in America.

Bubonic plague is reported to be exceedingly severe just now in Foochow, and the plague is worst in the district to the north of the foreign settlement. It is estimated that several hundred persons have already succumbed to the dread disease within the past month.

On the occasion of his approaching departure for Europe on leave of absence the Chinese British subjects of Bangkok presented to Mr. Ralph Paget, H.B.M. *Chargé d'Affaires* an address in which they expressed warmest appreciation of his services to them and their respectful thanks.

The *N.-C. Daily News* quotes a Canton dispatch, which states that it is reported in mandarin circles in that city that the Empress Dowager is credited with a desire to make Viceroys Tsên, of the Two Kuang provinces, and Wei, of the Liangkian, exchange posts, owing to the decidedly weak character of the latter in dealing with matters "requiring backbone."

From a Blue Book issued by the Colonial Office regarding the importation of Chinese coolies into South Africa, it appears that for every labourer shipped up to 10,000 the Chinese Government is to receive a fee of 6s., and for every one in excess of that number 4s. Safeguards are provided for the protection of the coolies in the mines, and a minimum of 45s. per month is guaranteed to each man after six months' service.

It is announced that the construction of the Tsao-chou Swatow line of rail in Kwangtung will soon commence as the required capital has been fully subscribed by Chinese merchants and officials at Canton, Hongkong and Singapore. The money has been obtained through the influence of Mr. Hang Hsin-nan, who is the Managing Director of the Company, which has a capital of Tls. 2,000,000 of 10,000 shares of Tls. 200 each.

Mr. W. H. Wilkinson, the British Consul-General at Yunnan-fu, after a journey to Bhamo (Burma) wrote to the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the subject of difficulties of transport, but the letter he said was intended rather as a plea for the subordination of all local railway schemes to the one great idea of a Southern Railway of Asia from the Bosphorus, down the Euphrates Valley, across Persia, Beloochistan, India, Burma, and thence through Yunnan, not to Szechuan—this is literally but a side issue—but via Kweiyang to Hankow and Shanghai.

With reference to the abolition of the silver currency in Formosa, except for purposes of subsidiary coins, the *Japan Mail* says it is announced that the Bank of Formosa shall have note-issuing power up to 5 million yen, the notes to be of denominations of one yen and upwards. This measure is indirectly due to the war, which enables the Japanese Government to find a large field for the use of silver. Hence no inconvenience will be experienced in dealing with all the stores of silver in Formosa, and thus extending the gold monometallic system to that island.

Our London correspondent telegraphs that—Mr. W. H. Treacher, the British Resident at Selangor, Federated Malay States; Mr. J. N. Jordan, the Minister Resident and Consul-General in Corea; and Mr. R. E. Bredon, C.M.G., Deputy Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, have received the honour of Knighthood, that Mr. Alfred Harmsworth (principal proprietor of the *London Daily Mail* and other journals) has had a baronetcy conferred upon him. Companions of St. Michael and St. George include Mr. Spooner, of the Malay Railways; Mr. Edward Hillier, of the Hong ong and Shanghai Bank, for services in China; Mr. Paget, of the British Legation, Bangkok; and Capt. E. C. Truebridge, late Naval Attaché at Tokyo. Imperial Service Companions include Mr. Charles Ford, of Hongkong; and Mr. G. T. Hare, C.M.G., of the Malay States.

THE LUST FOR EMPIRE.

(Daily Press, 18th June.)

In all ages a very similar law of nature has prevailed to prevent the dream of universal empire ever being realised by mortal man. The cause has ever been the same; a break in the communications with some distant dependency has exposed some defect in organisation, and the great empire, towards the building up of which so much skill and energy has been expended by the founders, and so much loss of blood and misery has been undergone by the vanquished, has suddenly collapsed in the face of some apparently insignificant foe, whose ability for defence was not thought worthy of entering into the councils of the invaders. It was thus that the great RAMESES, having conquered the whole of Syria up to the insignificant town of Kadesh, found himself suddenly brought up by the king of the Khatti (Hittites). RAMESES had been misinformed as to the position occupied by the enemy, and advancing with his bodyguard of some two thousand men, found the Hittites had succeeded in surrounding him. His soldiers fought with the courage of despair, and succeeded in guarding the king till reinforcements arrived, when the foe was defeated with great slaughter. RAMESES, however, took warning from his narrow escape, and concluded a treaty with the Khatti on equal terms, and we hear no more of further hostile advances of Egypt into these regions. So DARIUS THE GREAT, King of Persia, in his schemes for the conquest of the world found himself twenty-four centuries ago confronted on the plain of Marathon by a little Greek army; all Asia had submitted to his arms, and it seemed an almost ridiculous thing that a country which was not as large as the least of his satrapies, should dare with a few thousand men to confront him in the field. Before evening the hitherto invincible Persian army had undergone a defeat, so severe, and accompanied with so great a loss of prestige, that from that day the power of Persia commenced to decline. An adventurer, one ARSAK, of whom nobody had ever heard, a few years after the death of ALEXANDER at Babylon commenced to raid the northern frontiers of his distracted empire. Taking skilful advantage of the disputes between the great conqueror's successors ARSAK succeeded in founding a kingdom, powerful enough, not only eventually to turn the tables against the Macedonian supremacy, but three centuries later to inflict so severe a blow on Roman prestige that the empire never completely recovered the shock.

Most of all should Russia never forget this great truth. Twice, almost by miracle, has her empire been saved when in the last throes of extinction, not by her own prowess, but by circumstances over which she had herself little or no control. In the fourteenth century the entire of Muscovy was overrun by the Mongol hordes of BATU KHAN. Passing into Hungary and Germany the hordes bade fair to destroy the rising civilisation of Europe, which lay helpless at their feet. Fortunately at the crucial moment the senior KHAN OGOTAI died, and BATU, realising that the inevitable wars of the succession would need all his energy, left his conquests incomplete and recalled his troops to the steppes. In the nineteenth century, again, the EMPEROR NAPOLEON, in the pursuit of the will-o'-the-wisp of Universal Empire crossed the whole of Europe without opposition and entered on the plains of Russia. The Russian army was unable to stop his advance, and Moscow, the first city of the Empire, was taken by the French.

Driven to desperation, the Russians set fire to their own city, and the French having no shelter, and far removed from their base of operations, had to retreat. In that disastrous retreat the grand army of the Emperor perished practically to a man, and with it practically perished the empire that he had taken so much care to found.

In all these cases the lust for empire which in each individual instance had promoted the invasion conducted directly to the issue. To gain initial success, and sufficient *vis inertiae* to overrun its peaceable neighbours, the first steps of such an army must be rapid, and once impelled on its course no pause is practicable, nor can any time be allowed for reflection, nor for consolidating the kingdoms overrun, or arranging for communications if once interrupted. To pause in such a career is fatal; the leader is no more master of his actions than is the Malay who has once started to run amuck. To advance or to halt are both equally fatal, and, driven to desperation, he shuts his eyes and rushes blindly forward. Such was the cause of the decay of Egypt; such of the mad attempt of DARIUS to conquer Greece; such was the ruin of the Empire of Genghiz; such was the end of NAPOLEON's final effort towards universal monarchy; and such in the end, even should Russia contrive to evade for the moment the doom she has prepared for herself, will be the result of Russia's unwise meddling with the seemingly insignificant empire of Japan. Matched against Russia in even war, Japan could have had no prospect of success, but Russia in her intense folly gave her of her own notion the only possible means of success, and Japan, as Greece at Marathon, master of herself, boldly seized it. The fortress of Port Arthur, to gain which Russia has staked her honour and her reputation amongst the nations, has turned against her. It may have fallen by the time these lines are published; it may survive in Russian hands for a few months; it may even never be fated to fall into the hands of the Japanese armies. Yet we are none the less justified in believing that as an Empire Russia has fallen for ever—never again to be a bugbear amongst nations. Her own oppressed millions have been brought to wonder at the falsity of that seeming strength which once loomed over them as something more than natural; the nations in Central Asia, conquered not by arms but by the distant prestige of her arms, which they had been assured were invincible, have seen that prestige scattered to the winds; and seeing the last rag almost frantically grasped in nerveless hands, have naturally asked themselves: Are we not men ourselves as good as these? The nations of Europe who have been looking to Russia as the arbiter of the Continent, and founding their own little schemes of conquest on obtaining at least Russia's complacency, have likewise come to look a little more closely into her ability to help, or the value of her opposition should she decline to take part in their little shuffle.

Such, we take it, has been the most useful lesson taught by this most modern of wars, which, yet scarcely more than four months old, has already been pregnant with lessons of the most valuable nature.

An incident, most gruesome and regrettable, occurred lately when H.M.S. *Rinaldo* was six hours' steam out from Sandakan. It appears a bluejacket unfortunately fell overboard, and in the act of swimming towards a lifebuoy, which was immediately thrown to him, he was seized suddenly by a shark, and disappeared from view.

THE WAR.

(Daily Press, 20th June.)

Admiral BESOBRAOFF by his dash from Vladivostock to within thirty miles of Port Arthur, and by the blow he has inflicted on his enemy in the sinking of the transport *Hitachi-maru* with the loss of one thousand lives has achieved the first notable success in the war that can be placed to Russia's credit. The sinking of a transport is not, to be sure, a very heroic act, but the loss of nearly its entire freight of troops will not be without a stimulating effect upon the men of his squadron and the Russian sea and land forces generally. It is noteworthy that no official Japanese despatch given out for publication has confirmed Admiral SKYRDLOFF's report that the squadron approached so close to Port Arthur, but it is on Japanese testimony we have it that this squadron last Wednesday was in the Strait of Corea and there sunk one transport and torpedoed another, without, however, in the second case, a disastrous result. We have already recalled the fact that since the war began a squadron under Admiral KAMIMURA had been specially detailed to watch the enemy's ships at Vladivostock, and the public will be eager to learn how it happened that this opportunity of attacking the Vladivostock squadron was missed. From the official telegram announcing that Admiral KAMIMURA started in pursuit the same day that Admiral BESOBRAOFF delivered his blow on the transports, it is seen that the Japanese Squadron was at Sasebo, so it is not improbable that they will overtake the Russian ships.

However pleasing the sinking of a transport with almost its entire human freight may be to the Russians as an act of war, the whole civilised world must shudder at this method of annihilating brave men. Not that the Russian squadron has done anything that, according to the rules of war, it was not fully warranted in doing; but the spectacle of these thousand soldiers voluntarily preferring to be sent to the bottom of the ocean rather than surrender themselves alive to the enemy strikes the imagination in a way which must peculiarly affect the chords of the world's sympathy. Possibly many will condemn the act as wholesale suicide quite unjustifiable under the circumstances, but for our part we would wish neither to condemn nor entirely commend it. Some have derived from this wholesale immolation the mistaken notion that the element of cowardice enters into it; but anyone acquainted in the slightest degree with Japanese military history will instantly reject the notion. It is not cowardice; these soldiers did not fear the treatment that might be accorded them if they surrendered themselves alive to the enemy; their preference for death under such circumstances shows in fact a proud, unyielding, patriotic spirit and a magnificent stoicism which the world can admire even though it deems the occasion unworthy of its exhibition. We shall fail to understand these acts in their true light if we judge them entirely from the modern European point of view. We need to know that Japanese military history abounds with examples of wholesale acts of suicide. *Seppuku* (the form of suicide peculiar to Japan, but now practically obsolete) probably had its origin, according to Mr. BASIL CHAMBERLAIN, in the desire on the part of the vanquished warriors to avoid the humiliation of falling into the enemy's hands alive. After a battle, GRIFFIS tells us, the vanquished wounded fell on their swords, drove them through their mouth or breast or cut their throats. Often a famous

soldier, before dying, would flay and score his own face beyond recognition so that his enemies might not glory over him. This grew into a principle of honour, and frequently the unscathed survivors, defeated, and feeling the cause hopeless, committed suicide.

That this is not a worn-out tradition is shown by the statement in a telegram from our Kobe correspondent that most of the military officers on the ship committed suicide before she settled down. From the actual battlefield we have had no reports of this kind, for the very good reason that Japanese troops have not yet had to endure the humiliation of defeat in a single battle, but we may depend upon it that if a Japanese force gets into a tight corner this principle of honour we have outlined is so highly cherished that there will be a fight to the death whatever be the odds against the force. "Conquer or die" is their motto, and they are evidently prepared in all circumstances to carry this principle further than European opinion can approve.

OPIMUM IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 21st June.)

The Anti-Opium League in China has just published in pamphlet form reports made in 1902 by the American Consuls at Shanghai, Hongkong, Chefoo, Foochow, Amoy, and Tientsin on "Opium in China." We gather from the preface that these reports were called for by the Honourable DAVID J. HILL, while Acting Secretary of State, after an interview with the Rev. H. C. DU BOSE, who is the president of the Anti-Opium League in China. The circular issued to the American Consuls asked for information on the following aspects of the question.

(1.) To what extent is the arable land of China now devoted to the culture of the poppy? (2.) What is known of the increase of the culture of the poppy during recent years? (3.) What is known of the growth of the opium habit among the Chinese people? (4.) Is the increase of the culture of the poppy tending to diminish the production of cereals? (5.) To what extent, if any, does the use of opium affect the purchasing power of the Chinese people as regards American products?

The reports have not been published by the Department of State, but typewritten copies were supplied to the Anti-Opium League, who have printed them for circulation. The reports are chiefly remarkable for the vagueness of the information they contain, and the conflict of testimony on some of the main points. With regard to the first and second questions regarding the cultivation of the poppy in China, Consul GOODNOW replies that as there are no existing statistics covering the ground of these questions he finds it impossible to give any exact information, but all observers, he says, "bear testimony to the great extent to which districts are given up to the cultivation of the poppy, especially in the West and South." He reports also that during the last ten years there has been a steady decline in the importation of opium, and adds that during the same period the culture of opium has continued to increase in all parts of the country, particularly in Yunnan, Szechuen and Kiangsi. In some parts of Yunnan it has almost become the medium of exchange. Consul-General RUBLER wrote from Hongkong that the culture of the poppy in China is on a small scale; only "an insignificant part" of China is devoted to its culture, Consul FOWLER says it is impossible to give statistics, but "it is known to all that the

area is increasing enormously," and that the opium habit is increasing gradually everywhere. Mr. FESLER, the Consul at Amoy, does not attempt to answer the questions in their relation to the whole of China, but confining himself to their application to his own consular district, he states that according to the most reliable reports about 60 per cent. of the arable land in the district is devoted to the raising of the poppy, and that its culture has increased rapidly. Mr. RAGSDALE, the Consul at Tientsin, being extremely busy at the time, had a report prepared by the Interpreter of the Consulate. In this report it is stated that, so far as could be learnt, there has been no increase in the culture of the poppy during recent years owing to the ever-increasing taxation levied by the provincial and local authorities, which has increased the cost of opium to such an extent "that, happily, it is getting more and more a luxury for the rich, and beyond the means of the ordinary classes."

Whoever peruses these reports might well ask, Where is truth? He will probably find the nearest approach to truth in the report furnished by Mr. Consul GRACEY, of Foochow. After careful investigation he declares that the growing of the poppy is manifestly increasing every year in Central and Southern China. The amount of opium produced in China, he says, is from 350,000 piculs to 400,000 piculs. Mr. GRACEY embodies in his report a computation of the growth of the poppy and the use of opium throughout the empire made by Mr. F. E. TAYLOR, the Commissioner of Imperial Customs, who was at the time the Report was written in charge of the Statistical Department. Mr. TAYLOR calculated, allowing a moderate estimate of three hundred millions for the population of China, that there are about 5,000,000 opium smokers in the empire. As to the area under cultivation of the poppy, he estimates that if one-third of the area of the empire is cultivated land in every hundred *mow* of cultivated land only half a *mow* (6 *mow* to the acre) would be under opium and that only for part of the year.

We are asked to review these reports "in some home paper, secular or religious." We do not know what lessons we are expected to derive from their perusal, but the balance of reliable testimony seems to be clearly against the well-known views of the Anti-Opium Society. In the absence of any accurate statistics we have to take our choice between the statements that the cultivation of the poppy is (1) "enormously increasing" in China; (2) that "the cultivation of the poppy probably reached its utmost limit several years ago, and that no extension of poppy cultivation is entertained"; and (3) that "only an insignificant part of China is devoted to the culture of the poppy." Assuming it to be a fact that the cultivation of the poppy has increased of late years, it does not follow that opium-smoking is increasing. In the last ten years the import of foreign opium has been steadily declining. In 1892 the quantity imported was 70,782 piculs; in 1902 the quantity was 50,801 piculs—a decline of 20,000 piculs in ten years.

The answers to the other questions in the State Department's circular are quite as amusingly diverse as they are in regard to the cultivation of the poppy, but we have not the space to discuss them now. Opium-smoking may be a baneful habit, but in the words of Consul GRACEY, "whether it is a greater evil than the same kind of use of alcoholic intoxicants is an open question." Students of this question have asked before and continue to ask without result whether

any member of the Anti-Opium League can honestly testify to any exceptional mortality arising from the consumption of opium in China; a greater proportion of deaths from opium in China, say, than from drink in the British Isles.

The reports of the Consuls, we notice, are prefaced by a reprint of the Articles in the United States treaties with China prohibiting the importation of morphia and opium, but inasmuch as American houses were long ago beset by the Parsee merchants in this trade in China the anti-opium attitude of the American Government is rather cheap philanthropy. It is a philanthropy which is not applied to the Philippine Islands.

THE MEMORY OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

(Daily Press, 22nd June.)

The struggle now going on between the modern DAVID and GOLIATH—the Japanese and the Russians—pretty nearly absorbs all public attention, and matters that formerly would have proved of great and general interest to the Far East now receive but the most casual glance. The doings of the Chinese Government, the changes in its personnel, or the tendency of its policy, provokes but scanty consideration nowadays. Even the acts of Her Imperial Majesty the EMPRESS DOWAGER, whose lightest word at one time received notice, now meet with little regard. The grim tragedy of war now fills the stage, and other events or circumstances catch only the most fleeting interest of the house. There was a time when any matter relating to LI HUNG-CHANG, the great Viceroy, who once practically guided the destinies of the Celestial Empire, would have claimed a first place in the attention of the students of Far Eastern politics. The so-called BISMARCK of China is dead, certainly, but there should still be some of the glamour which once hung round his presence and fame. No successor to Li has yet arisen, and though his abilities were greatly overrated in his lifetime, it cannot be denied that he was, when filling the post of Viceroy of Chihli, the central figure in Chinese politics. That he did not merit the confidence reposed in him by many European Governments is now well known, and it is equally matter of notoriety that he no more deserved the trust of his own countrymen. A career that might have been respected, if not really great, was badly marred by the grasping cupidity which enabled him to pile up a colossal fortune at the expense of his country.

The Chinese Government, as might have been expected, paid tribute to his memory, but the Chinese people with few exceptions honour neither LI HUNG-CHANG nor his brother LI HAN-CHANG. The latter, when Viceroy of the Two Kwang, was significantly named "The Bottomless Purse" by the Cantonese, in reference to his boundless rapacity and greed, and LI HUNG-CHANG enjoyed a similar reputation in the province of Chihli; but, unlike his brother, commanded some respect by reason of his abilities. It is interesting, in view of these peculiarities, to read among the notes on native affairs in our Shanghai morning contemporary, some remarks which go to show that the true character of the avaricious LI HUNG-CHANG remains in the remembrance of the people. It seems that, after the Viceroy's death in 1901, the Imperial Government ordered a number of memorial temples to be built to his honour in the places wherewith he was connected as an administrator or official. His efforts

in suppressing the Taiping Rebellion (assisted by the late General GORDON, the hero of Khartoum) entitled him to the erection of temples in Kiangsu, and amongst others a small one was raised about two years ago at the Hinchuan-shan springs, near the city of Wusieh. When this temple was opened, the common people refused to give it the name suggested by the mandarins, viz., Wenchung Sze, or "Temple of Elegant Loyalty," but persist in designating it the Maikuo Sze, or Temple of the One who Sold his Country.

It is well that the natives of Kiangsu are not disposed to condone the evil that LI HUNG-CHANG effected during his long period of office as a mandarin, for the empire is still suffering from the results of his covetous love of money. It was through his instrumentality that the Russians acquired such a foothold in Manchuria, and had he lived longer it is probable the Muscovite chain would have been riveted more firmly on the neck of China. Happily, however, LI HUNG-CHANG was gathered to his fathers before the present crisis loomed, and the direction of the State has fallen to more patriotic if not more sagacious hands. Had LI HUNG-CHANG survived, it is possible that the whole course of events would have been altered, and that instead of China preserving a strict neutrality at the present time she would either have been dragged at the tail of the Russian war-chariot, or while avowedly neutral she would have been secretly working against Japan. LI's influence at the Court at Peking was great, and he was distinctly hostile to Japan, whom he never forgave for being the victor in the Chino-Japanese War. He, like his Muscovite friends, began by despising the Japanese and ended by biting the dust. The secret of LI HUNG-CHANG's Russian proclivities was to be found in the corruption practised by the Russian officials; a fellow feeling made him wondrous kind. The Chinese populace know how to appreciate purity of administration, though they never think of following; a good example in this respect, and though they expect only moderation in the gentle art of "squeezing" from their officials, there is a point to which they will not submit in silence if they do not openly rebel. The LI brothers both reached this point, and justly earned the execration of their countrymen for venality and treachery.

THE CLOCK TOWER.

(Daily Press, 23rd June.)

As the site for the erection of the New Post Office and other Government Departments is still in the very first stages of preparation to receive the foundations, it is perhaps superfluous to enter into any speculations as to the probable date of the completion of the building. The building will rise fair and stately some day, and we can only hope that by the time it is ready for occupation the wants of the Colony will not once again have quite outgrown the accommodation provided. There is something, however, we should like in all humility to suggest. A site was prepared for the erection of a new Clock Tower and a shelter for passengers using the Blake Pier, yclept Pedder Wharf. It was so seriously intended to carry out this much-desired and needed shelter that plans were called for by the Government and a prize of \$250 offered for the best plan. The competition was won by Mr. FISHER, architect in the Public Works Department, and the then Governor, Sir HENRY BLAKE, decided upon its erection at an early date. But the Govern-

ment decided that it could not vote the small sum required, and the commencement of the work was deferred—shall we say to the Greek Kalends? For it is a noticeable fact that works postponed by the Government have a knack of drifting into the background and being heard of no more officially. Even a Governor, unless he has a strong determination, usually bows to the *non possumus* of the Colonial Treasurer, and much as Sir HENRY BLAKE desired to see this tower stand holdly up in front of the far-extending Praya, he appeared to have no power of initiative in the matter.

As the question seems likely to be hung up indefinitely, and neither those who wish to see the Pier provided with waiting-rooms and a proper shelter, nor those who are anxious to shift the clock from its present tower seem to have any chance of attaining their desire, we would like to suggest that it is perhaps not too late to make other and perhaps more practicable arrangements. It is true that the plan of the Post Office has been sanctioned and passed and the contract for piling the foundations has been let, but as the work has not been more than commenced, it would be possible to allow for some deviation from the accepted plan. What we would suggest, therefore, is that an alteration should be made in the design to admit of the erection of a handsome clock tower at the north-east corner of the building. There would, we imagine, be no great difficulty in arranging for this alteration. It would probably entail rather heavier piling in the corner, and some little rearrangement of the design for the water front of the building, but nothing that the architects could not easily provide for. If this suggestion were adopted, matters would be greatly simplified, both for the adornment of the city and the comfort and convenience of the public. The plan of the waiting-rooms and roof of the Blake Pier made by Mr. FISHER could then be modified, by the elimination of the Clock Tower, and the existing Clock Tower could be removed so soon as the new building was sufficiently advanced to receive the clock. While making this suggestion, however, we by no means retreat from the position formerly taken up when we strongly advocated the immediate erection of the Clock Tower as designed by Mr. FISHER. We should still prefer to see this erected, inasmuch as it would occupy a site specially prepared and which projects beyond the Praya with the object of making the clock visible from every part of the Harbour. Nor do we for a moment retreat from the advocacy of the immediate removal of the existing Clock Tower, which has now become practically a useless obstruction to the street traffic that surges around it. At the same time, it is well to recognise facts as they are, and if we cannot have an independent Clock Tower, at once an ornament to the City and a convenience to the shore and floating population alike, we are willing to accept the best substitute for it that we can get.

The presence of the Filipino Commission in San Francisco led to a newspaper controversy as to whether the Filipino people are of Malay or Japanese origin. The *Call* asserts that with the exception of the Negritos and the Moros the native races are of Malayan extraction. The *Call* prints portraits of Filipinos to prove its contention, placing Japanese alongside of Filipinos. The *Chronicle* publishes Aguinaldo's picture to show that the islanders are Malaysian. We don't know how the question was settled, but a Solomon asked to give a decision on the point might very well say both contentions are probably correct, for does not the balance of testimony declare the Japanese to be of Malaysian origin?

WAICHOW A TREATY PORT.

(Daily Press 24th June.)

We learn through a Northern Chinese newspaper that at the request of Sir ERNEST SATOW, the British Minister, the Waiwupu has given the necessary instructions for the opening of Waichow in Kwangtung to foreign trade. Waichow, as many of our readers will recollect, was one of the five ports which the MACKAY Treaty stipulated should be opened to foreign trade on the same footing as the places opened by the Treaties of Nanking and Tientsin. We have always regarded Waichow as an important addition to the list of Treaty Ports, and when we learnt last September that owing to opposition on the part of Chinese officials, and apparent indifference on the British side, no preparations were being made for the opening of the port at the same time as the others, and that there was a probability that this port would not be thrown open at all, we commented on the importance of the matter to Hongkong, and urged that the Colonial Government would be neglecting its duty if it allowed this splendid opportunity to be lost to the Colony of opening up the territory at the back of Mirs Bay. The importance of Waichow to Hongkong is made clear when we repeat that if this port were joined by railway to Kowloon it would, from its position, become the natural distributing centre for the whole of the East River and right up to the borders of Kiangsi, whither the Waichow prefecture extends, and would open up a vast area which promises lucrative returns for trade. What the Colonial Government may have done in the matter of representing the importance of the subject to the Foreign Office we do not know; but the question was taken up by the China Association in London on advice from the Branch in Hongkong, and a letter was addressed to the Foreign Office regarding the desirability of the immediate opening of the port to foreign trade.

We may assume that the decision to open Waichow is the result of much persuasion, for the Treaty stipulates that if Article VIII., dealing with the abolition of *lekin*, does not come into operation, the right to demand under it the opening of Waichow and three other ports shall lapse. Whether Article VIII. will come into operation or not is still a question to which no definite answer can be given, but the British Foreign Office has evidently been convinced that it is eminently desirable in the interests of the trade of this Colony that Waichow should be declared a Treaty Port, whether Article VIII. of the MACKAY Treaty comes into operation or not, and the result is, as the Chinese newspaper report has it, "the Waiwupu in addition to instructing the Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs to that effect, now instructs the Viceroy of Liangkwan to appoint officials to carry out the stipulations relating to Waichow."

Situated though the city of Waichow is in the centre of a large and populous district, our previous articles on the subject have made the fact clear that until there is railway connection with Waichow its foreign trade will be of no considerable importance. By sea it is a distance of 150 miles from Hongkong, and steamship connection is impracticable; but by land, Waichow is only fifty miles distant from Mirs Bay, and the present roads are excellent. The construction of a railway from Kowloon presents no engineering difficulties, and we imagine that the capital for such a line would be raised without much difficulty, especially now that many

wealthy Chinese fully recognise the value and advantage of railways, and are apparently eager to invest in enterprises of this kind. In our yesterday's issue we mentioned the report that Chinese capital had been subscribed in Swatow, Hongkong and Singapore for a projected line of railway from Swatow to Tsao-Chow. Incidentally we may again mention the possibility of Waichow being some day connected with Swatow by rail; but of first importance will be its connection with Kowloon, and this fact serves to emphasise the necessity for the immediate commencement of the long-delayed railway which must one day connect Canton with Kowloon. We trust the opening of Waichow will prove to the British and Chinese Corporation an incentive to begin operations, for when once the Canton-Kowloon line is working it would probably not be difficult for the Corporation to obtain the necessary powers to construct those branch lines which will be necessary to develop the trade of the East River districts, of which Waichow will become the principal distributing centre.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press 20th June.)

It is with feelings amounting to something more than *ennui* that one now and again takes up his morning paper to be confronted with correspondence dealing with the alleged barbarities of Hongkong's "brutal police." The European constable, acting in collusion with his brothers in arms—the lordly Sikh and the complacent *lukong*, are again accused of unheard of severities when dealing with a recalcitrant "Jack" or "Tommy" who, doubtless with his mind inflamed with the fumes of bad whisky, has been perambulating the principal thoroughfare with the express intention of "looking for trouble." Naturally the first person who appeals to his warlike spirit as a worthy opponent is the poor unoffending ricksha coolie, who at once seeks refuge behind the Sikh or Chinese policeman, and the gauntlet is then thrown down to the full accompaniment of unadulterated "Jack Tar" logic. The inevitable Chinese crowd completes the interesting scene, and Jack, despoiled of his war paint and struggling like a fiend, is hauled before the authorities—not before he has viciously slashed out at his captors and received his well-deserved quietus in return. To the uninitiated he poses as a terribly ill-used British subject—hence these misguided appeals on his behalf that constantly appear in the morning papers.

Of course, to some extent, one sympathises with Jack, but the law, both in its conception and execution, is intended to be a terror to evil-doers, and any person, whether European or Chinese, who contravenes it suffers the prescribed punishment in consequence. To anyone conversant with western methods the assertion that the Hongkong police make use of unnecessary violence is simply ridiculous. In the London City police force resistance on the part of a frenzied drunkard promptly meets with an effective taste of the truncheon, and the delinquent is either frog-marched to the station or conveyed there on a shutter. Compare again the methods in use in New York. I very much doubt whether the genial Irish Bobby that has his beat in 23rd Street or the Bowery would extend kid-glove treatment to any unfortunate that happened to get into his clutches. Finally we must not lose sight of the fact that a drunken person is not only a disgusting sight, but a menace to the public peace; and as such our local representatives of the law are quite justified in using extreme measures, if such are necessary, to remove such offensive objects and place them for the time being under restraint.

I notice in one of the Service papers a complaint about the fleecing of service men in Hongkong by the ricksha coolies and sampan men. "The excessive fares, above legal tariff, paid by sailors is remarkable," the writer says, "and

although it speaks well for 'Jack's' generosity, it must have a bad effect on the sum total of his savings, to say nothing of establishing monetary precedents detrimental to the public, and not easily redeemed from the native mind." The remedy is in Jack's own hands. Every ricksha and every licensed sampan carries a copy of the legal tariff which the fare may demand to see, but the fact is Jack is often stupidly generous, and the effect is decidedly bad. No ricksha coolie will offer his services to a resident if a sailor is in sight. I have no doubt the sampan men are a worse set of rascals, and the correspondent suggests that the way to convince them that playing at extortionate fares is a losing game is for the naval authorities to allow the use of the ships' boats for a week. That would no doubt be a wholesome lesson to the sampan men.

It has been decided at the Magistracy this week that coolies may carry their bamboo carrying poles on the crowded pavements of the Colony to the inconvenience and danger of other people with perfect impunity. There is nothing in the legislative enactments, so the magistrate says, which inhibits this. If that be so it is a matter to which the Government may well give early attention. There are far too many coolies using the crowded side-walks with their carrying-poles on their shoulders, and I have myself witnessed many of the "inevitable accidents" which result usually in a disturbance.

A Straits Settlements paper mentions that the Opium Farmers there are losing money on their contracts, and would be glad to get quit of their farms. In Hongkong those acquainted with the opium business say that the same remark applies to the local Opium Farm. The tremendously enhanced price at which the farmers have undertaken the lease of the monopoly surprised most people, and it is freely stated that they are losing per month a sum well up into four figures. But after all, when 300,000 Chinese are habited on the Rand mines the farmers will more than recoup their losses and reap a handsome profit, for all the opium shipped there has to pass through their hands.

I think I may safely say that the principal topic of conversation at the four o'clock tea tables during the past week has been the announcement that Lady Nathan is accompanying the new Governor to Hongkong. It has been generally understood that Sir Mathew Nathan is a bachelor, and rumour hath it that there has been much searching among the marriage announcements in the back numbers of the *London Times* during the past week for a possible explanation of the announcement that a passage has been booked for Lady Nathan. Such searchings have been in vain, however, and it is concluded that the lady referred to is the Governor's sister, who should have been described as Miss Nathan. A contemporary has stated that in the latest list of the *Moldavia's* passengers the name of Lady Nathan has been withdrawn, but I have before me a list published on May 20th—the latest mail date—in which Lady Nathan's name still appears.

BANYAN.

The Empress Dowager has approved Sir Robert Hart's recommendations to the Throne for the registration of trade marks, and a special Bureau is about to be established under the supervision of a Japanese expert. Lord Lansdowne last month informed a London firm of patent agents that in accordance with the undertaking given by China in the Mackay Treaty:—"A working scheme for patent and trade mark protection is now being evolved, and in the meantime a provisional registration office for trade marks has been established at the Custom House at Shanghai, where we have a registration agent and the Chinese Courts will presumably afford, as they have done in the past, substantial protection against counterfeiting trade marks on the part of Chinese subjects. The French, Italian, German and English representatives have mutually arranged for the punishment in the Consular Courts of France, Germany, Italy and England, of subjects of these countries who infringe registered trade marks, and in all probability the remaining Western nations will shortly do likewise."

THE WAR.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

NAVAL OPERATIONS.

JAPANESE TRANSPORT SUNK. ANOTHER TORPEDOED.

Tokyo, 17th June, 12.20 p.m.

On the morning of the 15th inst., the Vladivostock squadron, consisting of the *Rossia*, the *Gromboi*, and the *Rurik*, appeared off Genkai and attacked our transports.

The *Hitachi-maru* was sunk, and there are but few survivors. The *Sado-maru* was torpedoed, but not sunk, and the majority of the men are believed to have been saved. The *Idzumi-maru's* fate is unknown.

The squadron was sighted off Oki Island on the 16th.

Tokyo, 17th June, 3.15 p.m.

Admiral Kamimura's fleet started on the morning of the 15th inst. in pursuit of the Vladivostock squadron.

[The three transports named above are Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers. The *Hitachi-maru* which has been sunk with considerable loss of life apparently, was a twin-screw steamer of 6,172 tons, well known in Hongkong, as before the war she was on the Company's European line. She was built in the Mitsu Bishi dockyard at Nagasaki, and is the largest and we believe the only steamer approaching the size, which has been built in Japan. The *Sado-Maru*, which the Russian squadron torpedoed, was also before the war engaged on the European run. She is a twin-screw steamer of 6,223 tons. The *Idzumi Maru*, whose fate is at present unknown, is a steamer of 3,230 tons which used to be employed on the Bombay run.—Ed.]

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Kobe, 17th June.

The torpedoing of the Japanese transports *Hitachi-Maru* and *Sado-Maru* by the Russian Vladivostock squadron took place off Okinozima (Corea Strait) on Wednesday. The *Sado-Maru* was saved.

150 men on the *Hitachi-Maru* were saved, while a number on board this vessel were shot.

Most of the officers committed suicide.

The captain and purser jumped overboard, but whether they were drowned or not is unknown.

LATER.

It is estimated that the loss of life by the sinking of the *Hitachi-Maru* was about 1,000.

The loss on the *Sado-Maru* was very small.

[The captain of the *Hitachi-Maru* was Captain Campbell.—Ed.]

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

VICE-ADMIRAL KAMIMURA'S REPORT.

Shanghai, 21st June, 5.25 p.m.

In his report Vice-Admiral Kamimura states:—

At 8 a.m. on the 15th inst. we were informed by a picket-boat, at Tsushima Island, to the effect that the enemy's fleet had been seen in the neighbourhood of Oki Island.

Our main fleet steamed at full speed in that direction and passed the southern part of the Tsushima Island. In the course of advance we, being joined by a destroyer flotilla, steamed to the north of Oki Island with a view to oppress down [*sic*] the enemy's squadron. In the meantime, the *Tsushima* was keeping the enemy in sight, whose movements she endeavoured to

report, but owing to heavy rain she lost touch with them. Whereupon our fleet steamed at full speed to the south of Oki Island, but was unable to find the enemy. By this time we surmised that they, under cover of a fog, had retired to the North, so we accordingly changed our course to that direction. We were met, however, by heavy rains which obscured the view, and all hope of sighting the enemy's fleet disappeared. Therefore we took a course in the direction we supposed the enemy would most likely retire.

On the 16th, at dawn, we arrived at a pre-arranged spot. The weather was now clear and the sight was extensive; but unfortunately we were unable to perceive the enemy. We cruised about, often changing our course, searching for the enemy, but without success.

On the 17th inst, as it was probable that the Russian warships were still cruising along the northern coast of Japan, our vessels took an extended order and searched to the southward, but we failed to discover them.

Our fleet returned on the 19th instant.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

LONDON, 20th June.

Reuter's correspondent in St. Petersburg wires that Admiral Besobrasoff commanded the squadron which recently sunk the Japanese transports. Admiral Skrydloff remained in Vladivostock.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

CAPTURES BY THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

LONDON, 23rd June, 11 a.m.

The Russian Vladivostock Squadron has captured trading and transport vessels with fighting troops aboard.

RUSSIAN DESTROYERS SUNK.

LONDON, 22nd June, 6.30 p.m.

It is reported that two Russian destroyers struck mines at the entrance to Port Arthur.

The mines exploded and over a hundred persons were killed.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCH.]

SHANGHAI, 22nd June, 11.30 p.m.

The fifth destroyer flotilla engaged in blockading off Port Arthur on the morning of the 21st instant, examined two Chinese junks emerging from the port, who stated that two Russian destroyers, three or four days ago, ran against mines and were sunk one and a half miles off Port Arthur; their casualties aggregated 140.

The steamers *Hatin* and *Taiping* were also recently blown up by mines outside Port Arthur.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

NEWCHWANG.

LONDON, 24th June.

Newchwang is being further fortified by the Russians.

ANOTHER ATTACK ON PORT ARTHUR.

MORE DAMAGE TO RUSSIAN SHIPS.

LONDON, 25th June.

The Russian squadron venturing out of the harbour of Port Arthur on the 23rd inst. were attacked by the Japanese Fleet.

A Russian battleship is believed to have been sunk, and other Russian vessels damaged.

Several Japanese destroyers were damaged slightly.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCH.]

TOKYO, 25th June, 2.30 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that on receipt of a report from a picketship by wireless telegraphy off Port Arthur that at 11 a.m. on the 23rd instant the enemy's fleet emerged from the port, he advanced with the whole fleet except the vessels on special mission.

The enemy consisted of six battleships, five cruisers, and fourteen destroyers, which seemed to make an attempt to move southward, but at nightfall stayed outside the port.

That night the majority of our destroyers and torpedo-boats attacked the enemy's fleet outside the port.

At least one battleship of the *Peresviet* type appeared to have been sunk and one battleship of the *Serastopol* type and one cruiser of the *Diana* type were seen being towed into the port the next morning apparently seriously damaged.

On our side the wardroom of the destroyer *Shirakumo* was damaged, three men being killed, and one surgeon and two men wounded. The torpedo-boat *Chidori* received one shot abaft her engine-room, but had no casualties. The torpedo-boats 64 and 66 were slightly damaged. No other damage was sustained.

LAND OPERATIONS.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

THE FIGHTING IN LIAOTUNG.

LONDON, 15th June.

Despatches from Generals Kurapatkin and Kharkivitch, and Admiral Stackelberg received in St. Petersburg confirm the recent reports of severe fighting to the North of Port Adams, which appears to indicate a general advance of the Japanese northwards from Kwantung.

Admiral Stackelberg reports a battle on the 14th instant, in which the Japanese repeatedly assaulted a position South of Wafangtang. He claims that the Russians retained the position, but admits that the losses were severe. A regimental commander was killed and General Gerngross wounded.

GENERAL KUROKI'S ADVANCE.

TOKYO, 17th June, 12.20 p.m.

General Kuroki reports that a detachment occupied, on the 12th, Huaijin, 65 miles north-east of Kuantian. There were 300 casualties sustained on our side; the enemy's casualties are unknown. One prisoner's epaulette shows the Fifteenth East Siberian Regiment.

THE BATTLE AT WAFANGTIEN.

LONDON, 17th June.

A despatch from Admiral Stackelberg timed early morning 16th instant describing the battle at Wafangtien says a superior force of Japanese on the 15th turned his right flank and compelled him to retreat Northwards by three roads. His losses were heavy. The Japanese fire wiped out two batteries and thirteen out of sixteen guns were destroyed and abandoned.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.]

THE DESPERATE FIGHT AT TELISSU.

GENERAL OKU'S REPORT.

TOKYO, 20th June, 1.55 p.m.

In the course of a report General Oku states that on the 13th inst. our army commenced to advance in three columns from Pulantien and Tashaho. The cavalry ad-

vanced along the Pitsuwo road, dispersing the enemy en route.

On the 14th inst. our left column arrived in the neighbourhood of Nachialing, while the middle and right columns reached to about twenty kilometres south of Telissu, where at 3 p.m. we opened fire on the enemy, and continued until sunset.

During the night the right and middle columns held the position, and at 5.30 a.m. on the 15th inst. again opened fire. Notwithstanding that the middle column was very hard pressed the advance was continued.

The left column, consisting of infantry and artillery, which has been despatched from Foutcheou at dawn, arrived at 9.30 a.m. the same day, and supported the advance. Despite the heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, we still continued to advance, climbing the hills; and owing to the enemy appearing on the right wing of our army, being far superior in numbers and trying to take the attacking attitude, reinforcements were twice sent up from our rear. At noon our cavalry also arrived, and made a fearful onslaught on the left rear of the enemy, who, being almost surrounded by our troops, offered a stubborn resistance. It appeared as though they were strengthened by reinforcements, and with a view to regain the position several sharp and unexpected attacks were made on our troops. Being unable to resist our attack they at last commenced retreating, in disorder, at 2 p.m.

At the commencement of the engagement the enemy comprised twenty-five infantry battalions, seventeen companies of cavalry, and ninety-eight guns. During the fight they were joined by reinforcements from the rear.

Their total casualties are at present unknown, but the number of the enemy's corpses left on the field, near where our right column had been engaged, was about 600. The prisoners taken by us were, the commander of the Fourth Regiment and 5 officers and 300 men, while the booty secured comprised the colours and 14 quick-firing guns. According to the statements of prisoners the commander of the First Army Corps was slightly wounded, the commander of the First Division seriously wounded, the commander of the First Regiment killed, and the commanders of the Second and Third Regiments wounded.

Our total casualties have not yet been definitely ascertained, but they are estimated at under 1,000.

TOKYO, 20th June, 4.15 p.m.

General Oku reports that the Russian corpses buried by us, near Telissu, up to evening of the 17th inst., amounted to 1,516. Russian corpses are still being found, and it is believed the number will be increased considerably. Natives say that the Russians, during the engagement, carried back their killed and wounded by railway, and that when taking flight the Russians buried or cremated corpses near Huahungkou.

The list of captured rifles, guns, and prisoners is increasing, but the exact number is as yet unknown.

SKIRMISHING NEAR TAKUSHAN.

SHANGHAI, 21st June, 5.15 p.m.

The report concerning the army disembarked at Taikozan [Takushan?] states that during the night of the 18th instant our scouts came in contact with the enemy about 24 miles south of Sichi-hanrei and Shuguan. There were several skirmishes in different directions, and we captured one officer and two men and killed more than fifty of the enemy. We seized a good deal of booty, consisting of many rifles and lances. Our casualties are

one man killed and five rank-and-file wounded.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

THE JAPANESE ARMY IN LIAOTUNG

LONDON, 21st June.

General Stackelberg reports that the Japanese have not advanced beyond Wa-feng-kau, and that they are extending on a front between Wa-feng-kau and Fuchau.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

Tokyo, 22nd June, 8.50 p.m.

A detachment of our Liaotung army occupied on the afternoon of the 21st inst., Hsiungyascheng, 25 miles south-west of Kaiping.

ANOTHER JAPANESE SUCCESS.

Tokyo, 25th June, 6.50 p.m.

Our Takushan army reports that a detachment at dawn on the 23rd instant surprised and routed one squadron of Russian cavalry 10 miles north-west of Santaokou on the Tashikiao road. It also occupied the heights north of Santaoho, expelling the enemy.

The enemy left 60 dead.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, 23rd June, 11 a.m.

In an encounter south of Kaiping the Russians sustained a loss of 2 000 men.

The Russians are now retreating and are utterly demoralised.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

JAPANESE VICEROY OF MANCHURIA.

LONDON, 21st June.

The *Daily Telegraph's* Tokyo correspondent wires that Yama (? Major-General Oyama) has been appointed Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief in Manchuria with General Baron Kodama as Chief of the staff. Marshal Yamagata remains at Tokyo as Chief of the staff.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF LIAOYANG.

LONDON, 22nd June.

Reuter's Newchwang correspondent wires, it is reported that Japanese cavalry made an attack on Liaoyang late on Saturday.

A missionary in Newchwang has received information from native sources that the fighting was continued until Monday and Liaoyang taken yesterday afternoon.

"THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR."

LONDON, 23rd June.

Reuter's correspondent at the Russian headquarters at Liaoyang says that the situation in the North is now the most important factor. Two Japanese armies threaten momentarily to effect a junction, assisted by a force on the North shore of the Gulf of Liaotung.

THE REPORTED CAPTURE OF LIAOYANG.

LONDON, 23rd June.

The capture of Liaoyang is denied in St. Petersburg.

GENERAL KUROPATKIN'S INTENTIONS.

LONDON, 24th June.

The St. Petersburg War Office has received a telegram from General Kuropatkin indicating that he does not intend to

seriously contest the Japanese advance to Kaiping, owing to the exposure of his flank to General Kuroki. He prefers to concentrate at Haicheng.

This decision appears to involve the evacuation of Newchwang and Yingkow.

RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF THE "HATUSE" DISASTER.

The following official telegram, dated May 20th, was from Admiral Alexeieff to the Grand Admiral the Grand Duke Alexis:—

"The following report was received by mail from Rear-Admiral Witgert on the night of May 19-20:—

"Three of the enemy's battleships and three cruisers appeared to the east on the morning of May 15.

"Their movements were watched from Liao-ti-shan and Golden Hill. After crossing the meridian of Port Arthur, this squadron turned eastward, and appeared to be getting into battle formation, when an explosion was observed under the third battleship of the two-funnelled *Fuji* type forward.

"The ironclad stopped, heeled over to starboard, and sank by the bow, sending up a quantity of steam. Two cruisers immediately approached, and it was observed from Golden Hill that they had lowered boats, after which the battleship gradually righted herself and appeared to recover from her injury.

"At that minute another battleship, with three funnels, of the *Shikishima* type (the *Hatsuse*), drew near to the place where the accident happened, and a mine exploded under her midship section, and then there was a second explosion similar to that which occurred in the case of the battleship *Petropavlovsk*.

"In the course of one minute she sank. The third ironclad put out to sea, the cruisers remaining on the scene of the disaster.

"I sent sixteen torpedo-boats to harass the enemy, and, should a favourable opportunity present itself, to attack the ships separately. The cruiser *Novik* went out to the passage in order, if necessary, to support the torpedo-boats, but the cruisers got up steam at this juncture and drew in towards shore.

"Five Japanese cruisers opened fire with all their heavy guns on our torpedo-boats, but the latter returned without loss. The damaged ironclad then disappeared below the horizon with her attendant cruisers, escaping from the pursuit of our flotilla.

"In the meantime night had fallen, the wind had freshened, and there was a rough sea.

"On the morning of May 16 three torpedo-boats approached the scene of the disaster. I sent the *Novik* against them, and they put out to sea.

"The ship which blew up at Kerr Bay was evidently a cruiser, to judge by her funnels and the fighting tops on her mizzen masts, which are visible at low water.

"According to reports from the coast, three torpedo-boats, covering an attempted landing at Kerr Bay, were damaged by our light artillery."

JAPAN'S SUNKEN WARSHIPS.

It is confidently stated that there will be no serious difficulty in raising the *Yoshino*. Careful examination shows that she has sustained very little damage. The *Hatsuse*, however, went down in 300 fathoms of water, and to raise her would be impossible. There is talk, the *Japan Mail* says, of getting up her guns and other equipment.

A RUSSO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE?

The *Novoe Vremya* writes:—"Russia will certainly win in the end, but what then? Shall we, to prevent a succession of further war, bleed the Japanese to death, and this done, keep permanent garrisons on the frontier; or will it not be far wiser after our victory to make the Japanese our allies?—Germany would, in such a case, certainly turn against us. Let us have done with German friendship. We have had enough of it."

A RUSSIAN MANIFESTO.

The *China Times*, in a recent issue, publishes the following English translation of a proclamation recently issued by Viceroy Alexeieff at Mukden. Our contemporary says that "there

is the best guarantee that the Chinese copy of the proclamation is an authentic one. The English version is made from the Chinese correctly and impartially." It runs as follows:—

"In regard to the advance toward Port Arthur made by the Japanese troops after crossing the Yalu and landing at Pitsewo, I, the Viceroy of the Far East, after due preparations and plans have been completed, have instructed our various troops not to engage in battle with the Japanese but to retire to the inland of Manchuria for the time being.

"As the present war has not the very slightest connection with the Government of China there is no necessity for you, good people, or for the local guilds to trouble your minds by taking war affairs into consideration.

"Hereby you are urged to continue your usual avocations without interruption. Trade and agriculture should be carried on as usual. You must not excite doubts about the retreat of the army of Great Russia or its power to repulse the enemy. They shall be wholly exterminated. Those who have been acting against the Russian army and who have been helping the Japanese shall be dealt with so also (i.e. shall also be exterminated).

"You must remain quiet. Then you will receive no ill-treatment of any kind. Anything obtained from you shall be justly paid for. In certain circumstances the Russian troops may destroy and burn things in store, owing to military exigencies; in which case you will be fully compensated by Russian officers upon receiving your lists of properties destroyed.

"The most serious and regrettable matter is that sections of the railway have been destroyed several times. Remember I have already issued proclamations on this subject. Now as you are people who can be trusted, I have requested you to look after the railway lines. You see that I am obliged to put upon you the responsibility of protecting the railways. Therefore you must not do even the slightest damage to the railway. Further you will not be able to disclaim responsibility whenever they are destroyed.

"Now, therefore, you are again notified by this proclamation that hereafter, if any destruction of the railways occurs, the people of the villages within the distance of 25 versts from the point of destruction shall be fined for the first offence. For the second offence, the villages shall be destroyed and burnt, and the villagers killed without a single life left whatsoever.

"At the same time, you common people are not the only persons responsible for the railways and telegraphs. The Manchurian people and officers too, as your leading men, will share the responsibility.

"The Hunghtses, who have been enlisted and armed with rifles by the Japanese, have joined the Japanese troops in the attempt to destroy the railway. From this you may perceive that the Japanese are not your friends. The Hunghtses, being rebels, are of course not good people, but they know how to do mischief to you good people. They have been led on by mercenary temptation to help the Japanese to exterminate your villages and properties. In short they bring upon you continual suffering, so constantly that you can never recover your losses. For this reason the Throne of China has also been trying to make an end of them.

"In conclusion, in order to avoid disasters, you must bestir yourselves to make a strict search for and get hold of anyone having a suspicious look or character, and make report from time to time to the Russian officers, informing them also of the condition of the railway for which you bear the responsibility.

"If you look well after the railways and continue your usual avocations you will have no need for anxiety.

"Let this be implicitly obeyed by all.

(Signed) "ALEX-IEFF."

Captain Diogo Sá, of the Portuguese gun-boat *Diu*, travelled to Hongkong yesterday by the s.s. *Heungshan* on his way home by the *Empress of India*. As the *Heungshan* left Macao Harbour the crew of the *Diu* manned the yards and gave three hearty cheers for the departing Commander. Captain Diogo Sá was accompanied to the wharf by His Excellency the Governor and suite and many of the high officials of the Colony.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 18th June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CALENDAR.

Eight cases figured on the calendar, fourteen persons being implicated. Six of the prisoners were charged with applying a false description to goods; one was charged with manslaughter, one with robbery, and one with forgery.

RETURNING FROM BANISHMENT.

Tsang Hop was charged with having returned to the Colony after being banished, and before the banishment had expired.

The Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, appeared for the Crown (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor).

The accused was sentenced to five years banishment on March 22, 1902, but was found in Hongkong on May 29, 1904. He pleaded guilty.

The Chief Justice—Before you were banished you were convicted twice of larceny. You know perfectly well that anybody who returns from banishment is liable to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, and at the end of that time he is banished again. You are sentenced to twelve months' hard labour, and to be banished at the end of that term. Keep away from the Colony; you are doing no good, but are doing the Colony harm.

The Court adjourned until this forenoon at 10 o'clock.

Monday, 20th June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

MANSLAUGHTER.

Ho Yan Sang, a Hakka coolie, was charged with having on 18th May caused the death of Chek Tsun.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. L. Knox, Chow Dart Tong, F. A. Macintosh, J. Hemmings, W. O. C. Spalckhaver, C. E. P. Herbst and E. S. Joseph.

The Attorney-General, Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), conducted the prosecution. In his opening statement he said that the deceased man lived with some other people at 15 Moon Street on the ground floor. Prisoner had only recently come to Hongkong. He was working with a rattan chairmaker in Sun Street. On the morning of the 18th May one of the deceased's 15 messmates had a quarrel with the chairmaker at whose house he had called to leave some clothes to be mended, the result being that one of the clogs belonging to the chairmaker was injured. About half-past six the same night the deceased was sitting at a table having chow along with several others when the chairmaker accompanied by the prisoner came to the shop and demanded that the damaged clog be replaced. They were told that they must wait until the people in the shop had finished their rice. Instead of waiting, the chairmaker and the prisoner went away and came back reinforced by a number of other Hakka men and set upon the party as they sat at chow. The prisoner had a long pointed bamboo pole which he used as a spear and with it prodded the deceased man, inflicting quite serious wounds. It was not suggested, however, that these wounds caused the death of the deceased. He was thrown down during the fracas and in the course of it he was jumped upon and part of his breast-bone penetrated his heart. Prisoner was pursued and captured; all the others got away. The state of the matter was that deceased was killed in the course of an assault by several men in which the prisoner took an active part. Who it was that jumped on the deceased's breast was not known.

Evidence was given.

The prisoner, when asked if he had anything to say, stated that he had only come to Hongkong on the morning of the 18th May to

collect 30 cents that a friend owed him. He was arrested in St. Francis Street. He took no part in the assault.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty.

His Lordship in passing sentence of five years' imprisonment with hard labour said that for scarcely any reason whatever the accused had interfered in a quarrel that had nothing to do with him, and along with a number of other men joined together and set upon a poor old man who had nothing to do with the quarrel. The accused prodded the old man with a bamboo, inflicting a wound an inch deep. Although that wound did not cause the death of the old man, yet the accused and his companions with their brutality did kill him. His Lordship hoped that the sentence he had imposed would have the effect of making Hakka men understand that they could not come here and assault whom they liked.

CHARGE OF ROBBERY.

Pun Tun On, a young Hakka, was charged with having on 24th May along with certain persons unknown committed assault and robbery at Hok Un and stolen \$110 and a quantity of jewellery and clothing.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. H. A. Burke, V. V. Carlowitz, P. Hell, R. Henderson, P. Tester, C. H. Falloon, and G. P. M. Keith.

The Attorney-General stated that the robbery took place at the cement works at Kowloon. The complainant and his wife were asleep in their house and were suddenly awakened by a number of men entering. They were seized and bound, the house was ransacked and various things were carried away by the robbers. The only point for the consideration of the jury was as to the identity of the prisoner. The woman met him in the street four nights after the robbery, recognised him as one of the gang and gave him in charge of the police.

After hearing evidence the jury found the prisoner not guilty by a majority of six to one. He was discharged.

DEFRAUDING THE GOVERNMENT.

Ng Tseung, an old China-man, was charged with having on 13th January forged a certain receipt for money, for payment by the Government of Hongkong of the sum of \$221 to one Chan Cheung with intent to defraud.

He denied the charge.

The jury was as follows:—Messrs. E. W. Terry, D. J. Pettigurah, H. Ehmer, A. H. A. Klockner, P. Robert, E. Mast, and C. W. Henser.

The Attorney-General stated that since 1888 a man named Chan Cheung held a squatter's licence for a plot of land at Mati. He died in 1898. But that fact was suppressed from the knowledge of the Government, and the squatter's licence was still held by the prisoner, who impersonated the dead man Chan Cheung. That was an offence in itself. But the prisoner, not content with obtaining possession of the land by falsely impersonating this dead man, went further and forged a receipt in the name of Chan Cheung in order to get from the Government compensation money for a portion of the land that had been granted to Chan Cheung under a squatter's licence. It appeared that last year the Government wanted some land for the purpose of erecting a disinfecting station, and they chose a portion of this land for the site. Compensation was fixed at \$221, and prisoner came into the Public Works Department office and got the money and signed a receipt for it in the name of Chan Cheung. The fact of the death of Chan Cheung came to the knowledge of the Government through a quarrel among the people concerned. The only defence put forward was that the prisoner had bought the land from Chan Cheung's representative after Chan Cheung's death and that this man told him to go to the office and use the name of Chan Cheung.

The jury, after hearing evidence, unanimously found the charge proven.

His Lordship in passing sentence said that at last Sessions the prisoner along with a woman had been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice. The sentence for such conspiracy was three years, but, as he was an old man, his Lordship had let him off with only one year's imprisonment. At that time

he did not know about this matter of the compensation money, which showed that the prisoner was an artful old scoundrel. He seemed to be a mixture of the knave and the fool; more of the knave than the fool. The sentence would be one year's imprisonment.

Tuesday, 21st June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN OPIUM CASE.

Cheung Man was charged with having on 19th May caused a certain false trade description bearing the letters "H. K. C. J. H. D. O." to be unlawfully used on packages of opium dross; also with having in his possession opium to which this label had been attached.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. J. Hemmings, E. Mast, T. H. Darton, L. Marshall, F. A. Macintosh, L. Knox and W. J. Terrill.

Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), conducted the prosecution; Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), was for the defence.

The Attorney-General in opening the case, said that the first charge against the prisoner was that of causing a false trade description to be applied to dross opium in imitation of the Opium Farmer's label. They were placed there without the authority of the Opium Farmer and for the purpose of deceiving the public and inducing them to believe that the opium which the defendant was selling was opium that had come through the Opium Farmer. If he applied that false description to the opium he was guilty of an offence against the Merchandise Marks Act. Defendant was the keeper of an opium divan, of which he had two, one of them being held in his wife's name. He was not licensed by the Opium Farmer but direct from the Government. About half-past ten in the evening of the 19th of May an excise officer from the Opium Farm found some illicit dross opium with some false imitations of the Opium Farmer's labels, a false imitation of his chop, and some packages bearing these false labels, in the bedroom of the comprador's department of Messrs. Meyer and Co. Subsequently a quantity of opium bearing these false labels and wrappers were seized in the prisoner's shop.

Evidence was led for the prosecution.

In the afternoon Mr. Slade made part of his opening speech for the defence, after which the Court adjourned until this forenoon at half-past ten o'clock.

One more case remains to be disposed of.

Wednesday, 22nd June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN OPIUM CASE.

The hearing was resumed of the case in which Cheung Man was charged with having on 19th May caused a certain false trade description bearing the letters "H. K. C. J. H. D. O." to be unlawfully used on packages of opium to which this label had been attached.

The following were the jury:—Messrs. J. Hemmings, E. Mast, T. H. Darton, L. Marshall, F. A. Macintosh, L. Knox and W. J. Terrill.

Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), conducted the prosecution; Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), appeared for the defence.

Mr. Slade having concluded his opening statement for the defence, evidence was led.

The prisoner was put into the box to give evidence on his own behalf. He stated that he had two dross opium divans which he had been carrying on for 20 years. During that time no criminal charge had ever been made against him. He obtained all his opium from the

Opium Farmer. When he obtained any opium from the Farmer entries were made in books and a record of the sales was also entered. An excise officer checked his books and the amount of opium in the divans every day. The excise officer came on the 19th and took his opium away at 12 o'clock at night. He (witness) was arrested next day. He bought his opium to the amount of 100 packages at a time. He did not employ the men who made the imitation wrappers and chop; they were employed by his foki. After other evidence had been given counsel addressed the jury and his Lordship summed up.

The jury found the prisoner not guilty on the first count by five to two; and guilty of illegal possession of opium to which a false trade description had been applied.

His Lordship in passing sentence said he had to deal with the prisoner not for being in possession of opium, but for having in his possession opium to which a false trade description had been applied. He would take into consideration the fact that prisoner had been in gaol since 19th May and would sentence him to one week's imprisonment with hard labour and to pay a fine of \$250, or in default six months' imprisonment.

ANOTHER OPIUM CASE.

Fung Man, Leung Ying and Fung Cheuk were charged with having on 19th May unlawfully applied a false description to a quantity of dross opium in imitation of the labels used by the Opium Farmer.

They pleaded not guilty and were undefended.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. E. W. Terry, C. H. Falloon, A. A. Z. von Stockhausen, P. R. Wolff, E. S. Joseph, H. Ehmer and Chow Dart Tong.

Mr. H. A. Burke was called to the jury, but failed to appear.

His Lordship directed the Registrar (Mr. A. Seth) to see that the absent jurymen was summoned and that he filed an affidavit accounting for his non-appearance.

The Attorney-General in opening the case said that prisoners were arrested about half-past ten o'clock on 19th May in a room in an opium divan by an excise officer who had gained admission by giving the secret password which resulted in the door being opened. The excuse given by the prisoners before the Magistrate was that they had just recently come down to Hongkong from Canton and that the owner of the divan employed them to put on these labels.

Evidence having been given, the jury unanimously found the prisoners guilty as libelled.

His Lordship in imposing the sentences said the prisoners knew they were carrying on an illicit business in that divan with locked doors at night. If they had been wrapping up opium in a legitimate fashion, in an honest way, they would have worked in the daytime and not in a locked room at night. The maximum punishment for this offence was two years, but he was not going to impose that term; perhaps they were a set of ignorant men and the tools of others. His Lordship sentenced them each to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour, to commence at the end of the three months' imprisonment which they were at present undergoing for some other offence. The packages and apparatus would be forfeited to be disposed of as the Government decided.

THREE MONTHS FOR PERJURY.

The first and second prisoners, Fung Man and Fung Cheuk, were afterwards dealt with for having committed perjury.

His Lordship said that by their statements that morning (while giving evidence in the case of Man Cheng) they had committed a most elaborate and uncalled-for perjury. They had told the Magistrate that they were employed by this man to pack opium. That morning, in order to get the man off, they turned round and said that he had nothing to do with this opium and that it was his foki who employed them, the foki who had disappeared. Man Cheung had been sent for trial upon their statements. Then they had got him found not guilty by saying he had nothing to do with this opium. To commit them for perjury would only be taking up the time of the Court. But there was an Ordinance under which he had power to sentence to three months' imprisonment anybody who committed perjury or made contradictory statements, whether before that

Court or the Magistracy. His Lordship passed sentence of three months' imprisonment with hard labour upon both prisoners accordingly.

This concluded the sessions, and the Court rose shortly before four o'clock.

Friday, 24th June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

A FAMILY AFFAIR.

F. C. Hurley sued R. C. Hurley for \$430, being money belonging to the plaintiff, held by the defendant. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. D. V. Steavenson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors.

Plaintiff when called stated that the money he sued for was held in trust for him by defendant, and that he had made application to him for it, but defendant refused to give it up.

Defendant admitted that he had the money, but said it had been put in trust with him for his nephew (the plaintiff) because he was not able to look after it himself. This action was the result of a quarrel between him and his nephew.

His Lordship said he had nothing to do with the cause of the action. Defendant had admitted that he had the money and had not given it up. Judgment for plaintiff with costs.

Saturday, 25th June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

OVEN DOORS.

The Robinson Piano Company sued the proprietor of the Café Weissmann for the cost of four oven doors and certain firebars valued at \$100.

Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, said in his opening statement that the Hongkong and China Bakery Company sold a plot of ground at Wanchai, on which their bakery stood, to the Robinson Piano Company, and before it was taken over the Bakery Company leased it for a month to the defendant. Inside of the premises was a good deal of machinery and apparatus for the making of bread. Some of this was purchased by defendant, who, however, distinctly refused to buy the ovens fixed in the walls of the godown at 140, Wanchai Road. Inside of these were a number of firebars forming part of the fixtures of the building. Subsequently four oven doors and a large number of the firebars were taken away by Mr. Weissmann, through his servants, and when called upon to return them, or pay the plaintiffs \$100, he practically refused to do so. He was written to about it, and replied that it was rather insolent suggesting he had taken things which did not belong to him.

Mr. Duncan Clark, of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., liquidators of the Hongkong and China Bakery Co., and Mr. S. D. Hickie, assistant at the Robinson Piano Co., gave evidence in support of plaintiff's claim. Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, proceeded to argue defendants' case, pointing out that Mr. Weissman denied having removed the doors and firebars. Even if he had done so the premises were not the property of the plaintiff at the time the articles were alleged to have been removed.

The Puisse Judge said he was satisfied the things were removed by the act of the servants of defendant, and that they had no right to take them away. He adjourned the case in order that certain documents might be produced.

The Chinese Government has apparently not abandoned all hope of refloating the *Haitien*, as the *N. C. Daily News* is credibly informed that negotiations have been opened up with a well-known Liverpool wrecking firm for the dispatch of a complete and powerfully equipped salvage plant. Apart from the expense of such an undertaking, it is very doubtful whether the *Haitien*, lying in her present awkward and exposed position, will survive the coming typhoon season, our contemporary says.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

REPORT ON THE TRAINING SEASON 1903-1904.

Major-General Villiers Hutton, the Officer Commanding the Troops, in forwarding Major Pritchard's report on the training of the Corps, says he was much pleased with the firing he saw carried out; also to know that some of the corps took part in the recent mobilisation of section II of the defence. He has information that the engine and light required will be here soon.

STRENGTH OF THE CORPS.

Major Pritchard in his report says:—On the April 1st, 1903, the total strength of the corps was 274, but of this number, 24 (17 artillery, 4 engineer company, and 3 band) were written off during April as resigned, absent, and not likely to return to the colony, or for other reasons, thus leaving the total number to commence the year at 250.

The total strength of the corps on 31st March, 1904, is 230 (including Chinese orderly room clerk); of this total, 10 (8 artillery and 2 engineers) will shortly be written off, leaving the actual total to commence the season 1904-1905 at 220, the falling-off of 30 in addition to those written off in April each year is as follows:—

Artillery companies 28, engineer company 2; leaving totals as follows:—Staff 8, artillery companies 188, engineers 21, band 3.

I attribute the falling-off in the artillery units to the same cause as last year, namely, the heavy Garrison artillery work and distance to go to drill at the forts, which has now been overcome, and in the engineers to the long distance to go to the work and the fact that the shed promised at Kowloon has not yet been fitted up.

The question of headquarters also affects the numbers.

During the past season 1 member has died, 66 have resigned (28 in Colony and 38 on leaving the Colony), 15 have been struck off as absent without leave and for other causes. Thirty-eight new members have been enrolled.

EQUIPMENT.

There has been no alteration in the equipment of the corps since last season; but the C. R. A. has kindly placed two additional 15-Pr. B. L. guns (making four altogether) at the temporary disposal of the corps.

One of these is kept at the Taikoo Sugar Works to enable the men there to drill with them without coming to the headquarters, and the remaining three are kept in the verandah outside the headquarters.

Accommodation under cover for these guns is badly wanted; at present a watchman has to be kept to look after the guns at night and they add greatly to the inconvenience so often reported on at the present headquarters.

It has been decided that the corps is to be armed with the new service rifle; the correspondence on this subject stated that they might be expected to be issued about November, 1904.

DISCIPLINE, TRAINING, ETC.

The discipline of the corps has been exceedingly good throughout the season.

Drill with the heavy guns as to Stonecutters' Island was carried out during the early part of the season, and drill with the 15-Pr. B. L. guns and maxims at headquarters all through the year.

Maxim practice was carried out frequently in camp, on January 9th, January 23rd (competition for Sir W. J. Gascoigne's shield) and February 16th.

15-Pr. B. L. gun practice was carried out on January 9th and on February 16th, 1904, with very good results.

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding was present on February 16th, 1904. On each occasion of gun practice the men were changed round continually so as to test their efficiency to the utmost and the barrel targets were sunk in each case by the ranging rounds before fuzing so that the greater part of the practice had to be carried out at small pieces of wreckage and the reports clearly show that the accuracy of shooting was excellent.

During the coming season it is proposed to fire some of the series at longer ranges.

Under the head of drills the figures are as follows—

	No. 1	No. 2	Eng.	
	Staff.	Co.	Co.	Band.
Efficients with more than 30 drills.....	7	46	54	12
Efficients with less than 30 drills.....	14	22	4	3
Non-efficients.....	17	17	7	...
Total.....	7	107	89	23

Of the 11 non-efficients, 16 have been called upon to make good the loss to the corps funds, i.e., \$25 each. 7 have been excused owing to the nature of their employment, 12 are absent (with leave) from the colony, and 6 recruits have been unable to complete the necessary number of drills.

The number of non-efficients shows a distinct decrease on the number last year, and I am of opinion that, although the numbers have again fallen, the efficiency in proportion to the total is greater than in former years. I hope now that the heavy gun drills have been stopped that the decrease in numbers will be checked and every endeavour is being made to get more recruits to join.

Musketry was carried out during the camp of instruction, and as many members as possible were put through the course. The members of the Engineer company fired the full course laid down in the musketry regulations, 1903; the members of the artillery companies fired at 200 yards, 300 yards and 500 yards; the average was good, but according to regulations, the latter are not classified.

The officers of the corps have practised with revolvers on different occasions, with good results.

CAMP OF INSTRUCTION.

The annual camp was held under canvas at Stonecutters' Island from October 23rd to November 2nd, 1903. The attendance was better than in the previous year, in spite of the fact that a typhoon kept men away for nearly 2 full days out of the 10. Stonecutters' West Battery was manned at night by the artillery units, and the engineer company manned the search lights. The usual company, carbine and rifle drills, were carried out, and the artillery units devoted the greater part of the time to 15Pr. B. L. and Maxim gun drill, in which a keen interest was taken. Practice was carried out with the Maxim guns on the range with good results, also class-firing by a number of men, but time did not permit of the whole corps completing the course. The engineer company in addition to musketry and infantry drills, carried out daily drills with the engines and search lights under the supervision of Royal Engineer instructors. Two accidents occurred during the period in camp which were attended to by Lieutenant Swan, the Medical Officer, and in both cases valuable first aid was given by the members of the ambulance class in camp. Next year it is proposed to arrange for one of the medical officers to remain in camp during the period.

The Officer Commanding Royal Artillery inspected the artillery units on October 31st. Drill was carried out with the 15-Pr. B. L. and Maxim guns, and the C. R. A. expressed himself pleased with the result.

The O.C.S.M., R.E., carried out an examination of the members of the engineer company on October 31st, and stated that their knowledge and progress was good.

The Officer Commanding the Troops inspected the corps on parade on Sunday, November 1st, and also made an inspection of the camp. He remarked on the steadiness of the men on parade and stated that he considered the camp was better laid out and more soldierly than in previous years.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The annual inspection of the corps by His Excellency the General Officer Commanding was held on March 26th, 1904.

The absentees from the inspection are as under:—23 absent with leave out of the Colony, 16 absent with leave on special duties in this Colony, 10 absent on medical certificates, 11 absent without leave.

The competition for the musketry shield presented by Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., took place on May 2nd, 1903, at Tai Hang rifle range, and was again won by the left No. 1 company, H.K.V.A.

The competition for the shield presented by Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., for Maxim gun practice, took place on January 23rd, 1904, and was won by the right half No. 2 company, H.K.V.A.

The corps took part in the King's Birthday parade in conjunction with the remainder of the garrison at the Happy Valley on November 9th, 1903.

An ambulance class was conducted by Captain F. O. Stedman, M.D. Nine members of the corps presented themselves for examination, of whom 8 qualified.

Confidential correspondence was carried on during the year with the Colonial Defence Committee on the subject of the organisation of the corps, and it was finally decided that the artillery portion of the corps should in future carry out moveable armament and Maxim gun duties and not drill with the fixed armament in the forts.

This decision was communicated to the members of the corps on parade on February 16th, 1904. I hope that this decision may check the further decrease in the numbers.

In my report last year I mentioned that it had been sanctioned that a shed should be put up at Kowloon to contain an engine and search-light installation for special instruction of the volunteers.

On February 3rd, 1904, I received information that this building had been completed, but that the engine and light were required to complete the defences. I hope that these may soon be replaced; the engineer company has decreased in strength to 21 at the present time, and it would be advisable to endeavour to popularise this useful portion of the corps by enabling them to do their technical drills without proceeding in every case to the forts.

The question of suitable headquarters for the corps still remains unsettled.

A Kitson light installation (2 lamps) was approved and fitted up on the parade ground in December, 1903. This has proved a great convenience and enabled the gun drill, laying, etc., with 15-Pr. B. L. and Maxim guns to be carried out under better conditions than formerly.

SERVICES.

Major A. Chapman took over the duties of Acting Commandant during my absence on leave from June 3rd to August 19th, 1903, and has always afforded me valuable assistance in all matters concerning the welfare of the corps.

The other officers of the corps have also, in almost every case, rendered excellent service and set a good example to the non-commissioned officers and men by their attendance at drills and their endeavours to promote the efficiency of the corps.

Sergeant-Major W. Higby, R.G.A., joined the staff at the commencement of the annual camp and from the date of taking over his duties has proved himself a zealous, hardworking non-commissioned officer, and has made himself popular with all ranks in the corps. First class Armourer Sergeant J. T. Hawks has fulfilled his duties in a very satisfactory manner. The duties of orderly room clerk have been performed by Yeung Shi-Chai, who has now been put on the permanent staff of the corps; he has done his work well, and during the period between September 27th and October 16th, whilst he was without the services of a Sergeant-Major, he greatly assisted in the heavy clerical work entailed by the arrangements for the camp.

The Manila *Call* of the 21st inst. says that Rear-Admiral Philip H. Cooper, commander-in-chief of the United States naval forces on the Asiatic station, is ordered to turn over the command to Rear-Admiral Stirling and proceed home on waiting orders. The cause for this order from the navy department is the result of a report of a recent medical board of survey which recommended that Rear-Admiral Cooper be relieved from active service owing to physical disabilities. It is understood that Rear-Admiral Stirling, who is now aboard the cruiser *New Orleans* at Chefoo, will be notified by Rear-Admiral Cooper to proceed to Hongkong, whence the command will be officially turned over to him; else he will be instructed to assume command per order, notifying the department at Washington of the acceptance of the office by him.

BOTANICAL & AFFORESTATION DEPARTMENT.

The annual report of the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, Mr. S. T. Dunn, for the year 1903 is published in the *Government Gazette*. We extract from it the following paragraphs:—

BOTANIC GARDENS.

The gardens have of late years become so crowded by Chinese visitors in fine weather that it was deemed advisable to restrict their use on certain days in order to provide opportunities of visiting them in a less crowded state by those desirous of doing so for scientific or other purposes. Each of the two gardens was accordingly closed once a week during August, September and October, admission being granted only to visitors presenting their cards. 26 opportunities were thus offered to the public of visiting the gardens under favourable conditions, and 627 persons (of whom 334 were Europeans) availed themselves of them. The result is interesting as showing the small demand that there is at the present time for an uncrowded garden. The privileged entrance should perhaps be tried again from time to time to test the wishes of the community. During the latter part of the year two gardeners were used as Park Keepers to encourage visitors to observe the regulations of the Gardens. A marked improvement in the behaviour of the Chinese working men who visit the Gardens in large numbers resulted from this plan, thus rendering the Gardens more attractive to other visitors. Some amendments were made in the Regulations in August, by one of which visitors are now allowed to bring in their dogs on leash.

One of the points brought out by the occasional closing of the Gardens referred to above was the comparatively small use made of the New Gardens by visitors. This has probably been due in some measure to the small number of seats there, and this defect was remedied in the autumn by the addition of 30 new ones. The opportunity was taken of opening up the trees and shrubs in front of some of the seats in order to give good views of the harbour. Some seats were also placed in Glenealy Ravine.

FORESTRY.

The time has now arrived for the Colony to profit to the full extent by the foresight of the Government of a former generation. In the late seventies tree planting was seriously undertaken, and from the year 1882 to 1885 the annual expenditure of \$2,000 was expressly sanctioned for afforestation, and from 200,000 to 300,000 young pines were planted each year. As the island became more completely covered with plantations, the operations and annual votes gradually diminished, until the present time, when the planting of a few thousand trees can be covered by a small portion of the tree planting vote of \$3,450. As a result of this policy there are now nearly 5,000 acres of pine upon the island, and the oldest plantations, now between 25 and 30 years old, are ready to fall and replant.

The pine plantations are of very various ages and sizes, and much time has been devoted during the year to a careful examination of them and subsequently to delineating them on maps and schedules so that a systematic working plan can be drawn up to ensure as far as possible an uniform annual outturn of timber. The surface of the island has been divided for this purpose into seven main divisions, and each of these into six to eight blocks containing from fifty to two or three hundred acres of pine plantation each. The primary object of this preliminary inspection of the plantations was to obtain statistics upon which to found a working plan for the future, but the results have a further interest as showing what return the Government have for their outlay of former years.

Forest Offences—Considering the fewness of the forest guards—5 in all—or one to each 1,000 acres of plantation, the number of trees stolen is small, only 427 during the year, and taken together with the 50 offenders brought to justice and convicted, reflects much credit on these officers.

Fires.—Only one serious fire occurred among the Government plantations. This was to the west of Tytamtuk and extended over about 2 acres, destroying 800 pine trees. It was only

by the promptness and energy of the police that the fire was prevented from spreading to a much greater extent in that thickly planted district.

Clearing.—An unusual amount of the time of the forestry staff has been occupied in clearing the ground for public works.

Planting.—The planting was unusually limited in extent owing to the partial failure of the pine seedling crop.

Protection.—The fire-barriers were cleaned throughout and extended to protect new plantations near the Taipo Road in the New Territory.

AGR CULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

In February the crop of sugar-cane obtained from cuttings procured by the Government from the Straits Settlements and Honolulu was ready for cutting distribution. 10,000 cuttings were offered to farmers in the New Territory without charge, and nine applicants were supplied with various quantities through the Police.

Mr. Li Pak's estate at Castle Peak, which takes the place of a Colonial experimental farm, produced 25 mow of these canes in 1901 besides 45 mow of Chinese varieties, and the percentages of sugar given below show the former to be a valuable improvement upon the canes hitherto grown in the Territory:

	Weight of Cane.	Weight of Juice.	Weight of Sugar.
Honolulu.	100	55.0	9.3
Province Wellesley	100	51.0	8.8
Chinese.	100	48.3	8.0

Some difficulties were encountered in bringing the sugar to a marketable condition: the prices obtained were not satisfactory and much below the best prices of Chinese sugar. As, however, the Castle Peak sugar from native canes was poorer in quality than that from foreign canes the fault was clearly in the manufacture and not in the new canes. The price in the local Chinese market is said to depend largely upon the reputation of the man who superintends the process of sugar-making, and an experienced man would probably be well worth his salary of \$1.50 to \$2.00 per diem. The experiments in other vegetables and fruits have been energetically pursued by Mr. Li Pak during the year, and it is satisfactory to hear that the results, while of much value to the Colony, have not been unremunerative to the owner. The most suitable vegetables for market purposes have proved during the year to be tomatoes, English cabbage, turnips, globe artichokes, and French beans.

English potatoes should be profitable in land plentifully supplied with water. These vegetables find a ready market because the introduction of better varieties and different cultivation has supplied a want that the old-fashioned methods could not meet. In the case of produce already grown in large quantities in the Chinese nursery gardens and sold at very low prices, such as Chinese cabbage, cauliflower, Chinese varieties of turnip, lettuce, prickly spinach, leeks and sweet potatoes, there is no room for competition. As regards fruit, a quantity of melons have been produced and have found a ready and profitable market in Hongkong. Guavas, wampis and papaws are too cheap to repay cultivation, but it is worth the consideration of capitalists whether the very cheapness of these and other fruits and also of some vegetables such as green peas does not offer opportunities for a profitable tinning or preserving establishment in the Colony. A large amount of jams and tinned vegetables must be consumed annually in Hongkong and Manila, and locally grown produce should easily compete with imported preserves.

It is a matter for surprise that no pineapple canning factory has been set up hitherto in Hongkong, considering the large and increasing amount of this fruit produced here, and with the example of the success that has attended this industry in Singapore.

This is from the New York Times:—American friendship for China is an example of the striking effect of background. With all respect to our English and Continental friends, it is their behaviour to the Chinese that makes us appear, by contrast to them, like a fairly honest and courteous gentleman among a band of plunderers.

THE TRADE OF HOIHOW.

THE TRADE OF HOIHOW.

Mr. Consul Werner, in his Report on the trade of Kiungchow (Hoihow), for the year 1903 says:—

As regards the total volume of trade in foreign vessels during the last 10 years, the year 1903 ranks fourth. The last five years of the decade, severally and collectively, also show an increase on the first five, the conclusion being that the trade of Hoihow in foreign vessels (which, Hoihow being the only open port, is equivalent to the foreign trade of Hainan) is steadily increasing, the fluctuations from year to year being merely the undulations in its onward progress. The trade during 1902 was abnormally great, and that of 1903 may be said to have held its place as an average year of the last half decade, in spite of many adverse conditions. This remark applies only to trade in vessels of foreign type (there being approximate statistics only of the junk trade), which, however, probably rises or falls in harmony with the general prosperity or adversity of the inhabitants of the island.

The total value of the trade of Kiungchow during the year 1903 was £597,208, 12s. 6d., the equivalent at 2s. 7½d. of 4,532,176 taels. In comparison with the total trade of 1902, the highest on record, this is less by £127,403. The decrease would have been slightly greater but for the difference in the rate of exchange, since the average value of the Haikuan tael, which was 2s. 7 1/5d. in 1902, was 2s. 7½d. in 1903.

The main cause of the decrease was the abundant rice harvest, the natives being able to supply their own wants almost entirely from the rice grown in the island during the last nine months of the year, when the abundant rainfalls fully compensated for the drought of the first quarter.

Imports.—Foreign goods were imported to the total value of £335,464, being £104,601 less than in 1902, and £4,137 less than in 1901. As the increase in 1902 was due to the import of large quantities of rice to meet the failure of local crops, so the decrease in 1903 was due to the absence of this necessity, the amount saved by heavenly favours bestowed upon the island during the latter year being more than two-thirds of the sum lost by their lack in the former one. In the matter of rice, taken by itself, the foreigner's gain is the native's loss, and vice versa. There would, however, seem to be a relation between the saving of money on rice and the purchase of a greater quantity of cotton goods, these two articles varying together in a remarkable manner. Put simply, it may be said that if failure of the rice crops obliges the native to buy his rice abroad instead of growing it at home, he will not indulge in a new cotton garment, but will postpone the purchase of it to less hard times. Native imports, chiefly from other southern ports, rose from £431 in 1902 to £6,484 in 1903, which is £5,386 more than in 1901. This insignificant portion of the total trade represents small quantities of rice, tinfoil, native cloth, hemp, vegetable seed, and beans and peas, in the order named, rice accounting for more than half of the total value.

The decline in 1902 in the total value of exports continued in 1903. The figures for the two years are £284,116 and £261,625 respectively. This is lower than the total value of any of the last five years except 1900. The continued fall in the export of sugar, both brown and white, would alone more than account for the decrease, which would have been considerably greater had not the export of pigs, cattle, &c., or rather their value, correspondingly increased.

No native imported goods were re-exported. Of foreign goods a small quantity, valued at £74, was re-exported to foreign countries and Hongkong, and a still smaller quantity, valued at £45, to the southern treaty ports, making a total of £119 (compared with £179 in 1902) for foreign goods re-exported during the year.

The Island of Hainan being to a large extent the feeder of the markets of Hongkong and Canton, most of the trade is transacted with those two places, that for Canton passing through Hongkong. The imports from that colony in 1903 were valued at £318,404 (being less by £64,142 than in 1902), and the exports to it from Hoihow at £251,184 (being less by

£26,336 than in 1902), the total value of the trade being thus less by £90,478. The very large increase of the two previous years was practically annihilated, the causes being identical with those which affected the total trade of the islands. The imports and exports from and to all other places were represented in 1903 by the balance of £17,060 and £10,441 respectively.

The value of imports from other treaty ports, chiefly Pakhoi and Swatow, as stated above was greater than in 1902 by £6,053. This small and capricious portion of the trade would seem to consist of the exchange of native commodities peculiar to, or more cheaply produced in, their several localities, and is probably dependent to a large extent upon opportunities of freight by the comparatively few steamers which ply between Hoihow and the ports abovementioned.

There has been no revival of the re-export trade from Hoihow to the French free port of Kwang-chow-wan, which existed during the first three years after the opening of that port to foreign trade. The extra expense involved in first bringing the merchandise destined for the free port to Hoihow is a sufficient reason for believing that this small local trade is not likely to be resuscitated.

The steady decline in the import of foreign opium, the value of which last year was only one-fourth of that in 1899, may safely be ascribed to successful smuggling. Brought duty-free to Kwang-chow-wan, it is thence shipped in native junks to Pu Chien, a good harbour on the northern coast of the island, whence it spreads inland. Probably an additional reason for the decline in the purchase of the foreign drug was the greater import of that manufactured in Kueichou and Yunnan, which had been retarded in 1902 by the unrest in the province of Kuang Hsi. The figures for foreign opium (nearly all of which is Patna) for 1901, 1902, and 1903 were £35,873, £35,669 and £18,075 respectively. The import in 1903 of native opium, as given in the returns of the native custom-house (now under the superintendence, but not under the control, of the maritime customs) was 16,533 lbs. (avoir.), valued at about £15,840. This is less in quantity but more in value than in 1902, when the figures were 19,220 lbs. (avoir.) valued at about £9,040.

The recovery of cotton goods was the principal feature of the import trade of the year. The total value (£94,378), as compared with 1901, is a decrease of £21,389, but as compared with 1902 an increase of £30,745.

Indian cotton yarn is most in demand, and represents no less than £60,766 of the total value of cotton goods.

Woollen goods showed a slight improvement, the value imported being £4,491 as against £4,244, an increase of £247, but the total still falls far short of the high figures of 1900 (£6,318) and 1901 (£5,975).

Of the three kinds of oil imported—American, Russian and Sumatran—American is still most in favour, whereas no Russian oil was imported during the year. The explanation of kerosene brought from so great a distance being preferred to the Sumatran oil is that the former can be burnt in native lamps having little draught, the latter being less suitable for this purpose. The enormous quantity of American kerosene imported in 1901 was, however, not equalled in 1903, but there was a considerable increase over the figures of 1902. The quantities and values for the three years, as will be seen from the annexed tables were as follows:—1901, 1,260,070 gallons, valued at £32,317; 1902, 631,090 gallons, valued at £13,986; 1903, 892,190 gallons, valued at £25,881. The value of the Sumatran oil imported was £1,709 less than in 1902, the figures for 1901-03, being:—1901, 200,810 gallons (£4,615); 1902, 415,480 gallons (£8,334); 1903, 247,191 gallons (£6,625).

The only other import requiring comment is the all-important one of rice. As stated above, the abundant harvests enabled the natives to supply their own wants with comparatively little external aid, and in consequence the value of rice imported during 1903 was less than in the previous year by £150,784. The quantities and values were respectively:—1902, 606,375 cwts., valued at £200,685; 1903, 129,588 cwts., valued at £49,901.

No tendency is shown to import new classes of goods. The list of goods not imported given

in my report three years ago in the hope that some opening for them might be found, remains the same as before.

Exports generally decreased from £284,116 to £261,627.

The decrease in exports was almost entirely due to the falling-off in brown and white sugar. The value of brown sugar exported was less by £59,405, and of white by £13,185; the figures for the two years being: brown, 1902, 294,803 cwt., valued at £101,246; 1903, 130,233 cwt., valued at £41,841; white, 1902, 27,254 cwt., valued at £13,472; 1903, 627 cwt., valued at £287. The crops are not much dependent upon the rainfall, but if high winds prevail at the time when the canes are full of sap the result is sure to be bad.

Of the other exports, the increase in the value of pigs (with which the returns include cattle, sheep and goats) compensated largely for the loss on sugar, the value being £49,867 greater than in 1902. The number of these animals, however, was only 958 more, the figures in 1902 being 75,969 (valued at £30,011), and in 1903, 76,927 (valued at £109,878).

Fresh eggs, which go mostly to Hongkong, decreased in number but increased in value, the number for the two years being 17,703,940 and 13,229,100, and the values £7,711 and £8,251 respectively.

The remaining principal staple exports—leather, hides, betel nuts, galangal, hemp, groundnut cake, poultry, grass cloth, straw mats and sesamum seed—call for no special comment. The first five showed an increase and the last five a decrease.

The higher value of pigs necessitated the payment of £33,000 for 16,500 animals, whereas in 1902 £36,327 purchased 24,218.

With the exception of the new item of cocoanut oil, and hemp and skins, all the other articles showed a decline in the value imported, the greatest fall being in medicines, tobacco leaf and timber.

With regard to cocoanut oil it may be useful to mention that it is used by the natives as a specific for toothache, and is said to be a never-failing remedy. The directions for use are as follows:—Procure a fresh cocoanut, cut it in half, place one half with the concave side facing upwards on a large cup containing some cotton wool, and inside the cocoanut put some live charcoal. When the oil exudes on to the wool, take the latter out, and insert it with the aid of a blunt needle into the aching cavity. Care must be taken not to let the oil drop on to the tongue or skin, since it raises a most painful blister.

The total number of transit passes taken out was 1,294 inwards and 205 outwards, as against 1,201 and 628 in 1902. The inward passes were mostly applied for by Chinese, and the outward by French traders. The total number was divided as follows:—Inward passes: German, 52; French, 163; Chinese, 1,079; outward passes: German, 16; French, 189.

The number of British steamers which visited the port was 10 less than during the previous year, the total number being only 13. German and French steamers still do most of the carrying trade. The former made 462 trips, with a tonnage of 395,098 tons, and carried cargo valued at £335,385. French steamers made 422 trips, with a total tonnage of 255,838 tons, and carried cargo valued at £223,411. Compared with the figures for 1902, this is an increase for German steamers in the number of trips, total tonnage and value of cargo, and a decrease for French steamers. The value of the cargo carried in vessels of other nationalities is but an insignificant proportion of the total trade.

One sailing vessel of foreign type, the *Madge* of 123 tons, entered and cleared during the year. She flew the Chinese flag, and came from Bangkok, bringing a cargo valued at £336, and leaving with £76 worth for the same port. This is the only sailing vessel from another country which has visited the port since 1881.

Under the inland navigation rules two launches, flying the French flag, made 244 trips. These appear in the returns as 122 entered, with a total tonnage of 3,000 tons, and the same number and tonnage cleared. Of the total number of trips, 224 were made in ballast.

The health of the district was even better during 1903 than during 1902. Plague did not show itself, and no outbreak of any kind occurred. As this good result is certainly

not to be attributed to precautions taken by the natives, it must be supposed that the natural conditions—rainfall, winds, &c.—militated against epidemics of every description. To suppose, however, that they have disappeared for ever would be rash.

The mining project mentioned in my last report proved a failure. The expenses of working—especially the wages of the workmen, who demand double remuneration to compensate them for the danger incurred by disturbing the Earth Spirit—proved too great, and the mine was closed after a good deal of capital had been sunk in the abortive venture.

MONETARY CONDITIONS IN THE ORIENT.

BY PROFESSOR J. W. JENKS.

The following translation of a leading article specially contributed to *The Chinese Weekly* is reproduced from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

The business men of the United States, on account of their business connections, have been long interested in monetary conditions in the East. The Government of the United States first became interested when it took charge of the Philippine Islands. At first the ratio between the American money paid to the soldiers and the Mexican dollar was one to two; but with the fall in the price of silver, the fluctuations in the rate of exchange began, which have continued ever since. With two currencies in circulation at the same time, with continually changing values, the troubles of carrying on business, which have become so familiar to all people who have dealings with the silver standard countries, began. In consequence the United States determined to reform the monetary system. Experts were sent to the Philippines and to neighbouring countries to study the question, and the plan was formed which has since been adopted by Congress, and is now being put into effect. It is, in brief, a silver and copper currency maintained at par with gold, although the gold coins of the United States are legal money and United States money is sometimes used, though rarely, in local trade. Practically the only difference between the monetary system of the Philippines, when the reform shall have been completed, and that of Japan, or England, or Germany, is that in the Philippines the silver unit will be legal tender for unlimited amounts, and the circulation of gold will not be encouraged.

Mexico has for many years had a silver standard, and Mexican dollars have been the chief silver money of the East. On account of the fall in the price of silver, the Mexicans felt for a number of years that there was a stimulus to the export trade, and that, on the whole, the country gained by being on a silver standard. Later experience, however, convinced the Mexican Government that, although more products might be exported it would be at lower prices, so that continually more and more of the Mexican products were required to pay for the imported goods which Mexico consumed. In consequence it was felt that the country was being rapidly impoverished, and the Government decided to make a change which would give its coins a fixed value in terms of gold.

Owing to the difficulties in which China has found herself during the past three or four years on account of the great indemnity which she must pay to the Powers, the Chinese Government has felt more and more the great disadvantage of her silver which has been used as money and which has been depreciating rapidly in value. In order to relieve herself of some of her difficulties, a little over a year ago she came to the conclusion that her monetary system also should be reformed and her silver money be given a fixed value in gold. Winter before last then, China and Mexico requested the Government of the United States to take such measures as might seem to it best to aid them in changing their monetary system. Inasmuch as it was felt that a change in the systems of those countries in the direction indicated, especially of the great Empire of China, in many respects the greatest in the world, would be of very great benefit to the trade, not merely of the United States, but of the entire civilised world, although primarily

in the interest of China, the Government of the United States was glad to render all possible assistance. It seemed best to make an effort, even beyond the point suggested in the invitation, and to see if it might not be possible to bring ultimately all silver-standard countries to adopt a system which should place their monies on a parity with gold.

The difficulties arising from the fall in the price of silver had made themselves felt so strongly in the Straits Settlements and earlier in India, that the British Government had determined to reform the currency of those countries. This reform in India was practically completed in 1899, after a struggle of some six or seven years. In the Straits Settlements a commission was appointed last year and proposed a reform there. The report of the commission was adopted, and the Government has already begun the work of changing its old coins for new ones, with the purpose of reaching in the not distant future a gold standard.

In French Indo-China there have been felt also the same difficulties, and a Government committee has studied the question there and has reached substantially the same conclusion, that that country also must be given a uniform monetary system which shall have a fixed ratio with gold. Siam, as is well known, is also attempting to give a fixed gold value to her silver coins. In consequence it seemed to the United States Government that, if some harmonious action could be secured through the Governments of Europe to give to the Straits Settlements and French Indo-China a monetary system somewhat similar to the one which it was adopting in the Philippines, and if, through the sympathy of the European Powers and through the assistance of their business men, China could likewise adopt such a system, one of the greatest economic reforms of the present day would have been secured. Thereafter it might be possible to bring likewise the countries of South America and others not having a gold standard upon a similar basis.

A Commission appointed by President Roosevelt under an Act of Congress visited Europe to see how far action could be made harmonious. Both England and France are actively working now to give to their dependencies immediately this form of the gold standard, and all of the leading countries of Europe have expressed their sympathy with the effort of China to establish a similar system. Japan has likewise expressed sympathy with the reform here, and the Chinese Government is now actively studying the question.

In brief, the plan proposed by the United States is to secure as soon as possible for the people of China and of those other Oriental countries now on a silver basis, a currency composed of silver and copper in circulation, which, however, shall be maintained at a fixed value with gold.

A gold currency in circulation would not be suitable to the customs of the people of China or any of those countries concerned. Owing to the poverty of the people, to the very low rates of wages, and to the very low cost of living, a coin as small in value as one cash is needed for constant circulation, and where a small family may be supported for a month on, say, two or three taels, surely valuable gold coins would be out of place. Moreover the Chinese people are accustomed to silver and copper coins, and would naturally prefer them.

It is essential, however, especially for international trade, that these coins be kept on a par with gold, but it is far cheaper for the country and it is easier under present circumstances for China, to adopt a system which does not require gold for circulation.

The greatest benefit which can be secured for China, both in her internal and in her international trade is that the plan succeed. A nation with 400,000,000 people, with immense undeveloped resources, with a growing trade, and so situated that it is practically essential, in order to meet its international obligations, that its trade be increased, that foreign capital be invested in the country, and that its revenues be expanded, needs above all other business conditions a uniform national currency stable in value.

The difficulties in the way cannot, however, be overlooked. The central Government of China has not been accustomed to exert much direct control over the provincial governments.

and those governments have already, in many cases, established independent monetary systems and have issued independent paper money. This, of course, stands in the way of a national currency under central control.

The country is seriously burdened with debt, so that it will be difficult for her to bear the expense which will be required to change the present system to a better one, although, of course, the greatly added benefits of the new system will repay richly the initial cost as soon as the system is established. The political organisation of a new system with sufficient skilled help, and such as to secure the confidence of the people, is also a very difficult task.

NEW RAILWAY ROUTE TO CHINA.

VIENNA TO SHANGHAI IN EIGHT DAYS.

In an Austrian review Dr. Convall Spatzier outlines a project for a new railway route to China. The route of this new railway, starting at Constantinople, crosses the Bosphorus to Haidar Pasha by the proposed Abdul Hamid Bridge or by ferry-boats, utilises the Anatolian system, actual and projected, to Erzerum, passes from the basin of the Euphrates into that of the Aras, follows this valley to the plains of the Kura, passes along the southern shore of the Caspian Sea, ascends the valley of the Atrak, then beyond Kuchan, passes into the valley of the Keshef Rud, crosses the Hari Rud on a bridge, follows the upper course of the Amu Darya, passing through Faizabad (1,060m.) and the valley of the Kokcha, till it enters the Pamirs. Here the difficulties become serious, but not insuperable. The line passes through Ishkashim (2,650m.), ascends for 300km. the valley of the Panji till at a height of 4,000m. (its highest point, which would be lessened by a tunnel), it passes from Afghan territory to Chinese territory on the Tagh-dum-bash Pamir. There the line would descend 2,000m. in 150km., and the plain of Eastern Turkestan at a height of 1,350m., and would form a difficult section to construct, but not a problem impossible to solve. From that point the line passes through the Cherchen valley and skirts the tableland of Tibet, passing through Tsaidam (500km. (2,830m.)), and then south of the Kuku-nor reaches the basin of the Hwang-ho. After following the valley of the Hwang-ho (2,620m.), it passes above Kung-chang into the valley of the Wei-ho, through Si-an-fu, and arrives at the great bend of the Hwang-ho at Tung-kwan, and follows along the right bank to Yungtsze. From that point one branch leads to Peking, while the other quits the valley of the Hwang-ho and proceeds to the Yangtsze, which it reaches twenty kilometres below Nanking, and thence across the river and onward by rail (265km.) to Shanghai, or down the river (320km.) to Wosung, the out-port of Shanghai.

At Yungtsze, where the line quits N. and S. the Hwang-ho, a branch would join this route to the Canton, Hankow, and Peking system. Thus the commercial towns on the Pacific would enter into railway connection with the inland towns of the empire.

Dr. Spatzier discusses the time the journey would occupy by this route to the Far East. From Vienna to Wosung the approximate distance is estimated at 11,920km., from Vienna to Peking 11,646km. Taking for his standard of speed the express from Paris to Marseilles, 863km. in 12 hours 50 minutes, say, 67km. an hour, or 1,610km. a day, with twelve stops, he finds that the time of transit would be 7 days 14 hours and 7 days 10 hours from Vienna to Shanghai and Peking in place of 17 days 8 hours estimated for the Trans-Siberian route.

Rear-Admiral de Fanques de Jonquieres, second in command of the French squadron in the Far East, visited Macao on Thursday. The gunboat on which he went up was accompanied by two torpedo-boats. The vessels arrived off the port about six o'clock in the evening and exchanged a salute of nineteen guns with the Fort. Shortly afterwards, the Admiral with his suite landed and was met by a guard of honour and escorted to Government House to call upon His Excellency the Governor, Senhor Queiroz Montenegro.

PAKHOI.

June 14, 1904.

The French man-of-war *Pascal* arrived on the 9th inst. off the roadsteads, and after half-an-hour's stay she put off to sea again.

THE NEW MAGISTRATE.

Pao Kwok Chun, the new local magistrate appointed by the Viceroy, arrived here last week to succeed Chong Chun, who is still at Linchow awaiting the decision in the late case of bribery in which he is concerned. Pao did not actually take the seal of office from Chong, but from an acting magistrate named Ma, who had been appointed temporarily to the post during Chong's absence at the prefectural city.

THE PREFECT OF LINCHOW.

The Prefect of Linchow, Chu Ham Yek, after an indifferent career of less than a year, is going to be succeeded by Lee Chong Kwong, who arrived here by the gunboat *Anlan* from Canton on the 11th inst. Lee will leave for his new post probably to-morrow morning. I understand he comes with instructions from the Canton Viceroy to finally deal with the bribery case, which ought to have been decided long ago.

A NEW ILLUMINANT.

By the advent recently of a new brand of kerosine oil in this port from your colony, not a little stir was noticeable amongst the traders in oil. The new illuminant, which comes from Burma, is pronounced to be quite as good as any other brand in this market, except the "Snow-flake," the prohibitive price of which has limited the numbers of its consumers to a "selected few." Apart from the quality of the new oil, its cheapness commends itself to the natives, and unless the prices of other brands of oil come to a level with the new rival, it is my humble opinion that there will be practically no demand for them, at least so far as this distributing port is concerned.

THE HEALTH OF THE PORT.

The health of the port is good, with a mild temperature and occasional showers. Not a single case of epidemic disease has come to my knowledge, though we are in the middle of summer.

FESTIVAL AT MACAO.

Macao, usually so dull and quiet, was very gay on the 18th and 19th inst. The occasion was the annual feast of St. Anthony of Padua, a saint highly venerated by the Portuguese in every part of the world. Great preparations were made by the people of Macao in general, and those of the district of St. Anthony in particular, for the feast. From the ruins of the ancient Church of St. Paulo to the Camões's Gardens triumphal arches, flags, banners and lanterns were fixed up, bearing evidence of hard and painstaking work on the part of the committee in charge of the decorations. Under the first of these arches a number of little girls were posted to collect money for defraying the expenses of the feast, and judging from the large numbers of people who of necessity passed through in order to see the decorations, these girls must have netted quite a nice sum for the fund. The feast actually commenced on Saturday afternoon, when His Lordship the Bishop of Macao blessed and distributed alms, consisting of wine, rice and fruits, to over 300 poor people. The service on Sunday began with a Pontifical High Mass by the Bishop at the Parochial Church of St. Anthony, and in the afternoon at half-past five a long procession started from the same church and wended its way through the streets of the town. The Bishop was assisted by all the clergy in the ceremonies. The Governor of Macao was represented by his *aide-de-camp*, who walked immediately behind the Bishop, and the procession was followed by a large number of the devotees of the saint both of Hongkong and Macao. From every coign of vantage there were crowds of sightseers, owners of houses in the vicinity dispensing hospitality to their friends. Among these was the large and well-known house of the late Commendado Lourenço Marques, which stands not only as an historical landmark of the district of St.

Anthony, but of the well-known Marques family, as well.

In the evening there were *Kermesse* fireworks and a band performance on the Praça Luiz de Camões; the facade of the church and several houses were very gaily illuminated, and the crowd of people, both foreigners and Chinese, who thronged there was enormous. There were close upon 1,500 visitors from Hongkong, other than Chinese, in Macao on Sunday. The police kept excellent order, and we have not heard of any accidents. The limited means of locomotion in Macao were sorely taxed, ricksha; especially being at an enormous premium. The feast must have proved very profitable to the hotels and ricksha pullers. The former, we understand, were all full. Mr. Farmer in the Macao and Mr. Marques in the Boa Vista were kept very busy catering for the crowd. Of course, as usual on an occasion like this, the *fantaisie* shops were well patronised, and many as usual returned to Hongkong sadder but wiser men.

THE MACAO HOTEL.

INSTALLATION OF THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

On Friday 24th inst. Mr. W. Farmer, the proprietor of the Macao Hotel, entertained a large company of friends to dinner on the occasion of the installation of the electric light in the hotel. This is the first time that electric light has been introduced into Macao, and its introduction says much for the enterprise of Mr. Farmer and his business capacity. We learn that the contract for the electric lighting of Macao has been signed, the contractor being a Frenchman. When the scheme of lighting is completed, Macao will be even more tempting than it is at present for the jaded Hongkong worker, but while the electric light is being installed visitors will find all the comforts that electricity brings in the popular resort of which Mr. Farmer is the head. On Friday evening there were about eighty guests to do honour to the event. Among the invited guests were Mr. E. S. Whealler, of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., in the chair, and among those present were Mr. Farmer, the Governor's A.D.C., C. A. Magalhaes (H.E. the Governor Senhor Montenegro was unfortunately unable to be present owing to sickness in his family), Major Commander and Lady Guedes, Dr. and Mrs. Gonsalves Pereira, Captain and Mrs. Duras, R.A.; the officers of the gunboat *Diu*; the officers of the cruiser *Adamastor*; Captain D. Garcia, R. I.; Captain J. M. Santos, R. I.; Captain R. M. Roza, R. I.; Mr. Fortes; Lieut. and Mrs. Labato, R. I.; Mr. and Mrs. O. d'Oliveira, Mr. R. d'Almeida; Mr. Orssen, Commissioner of Customs; Mr. Ho Yung, Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. T. Skinner, Mr. E. A. Hankey; Mr. Allen, Vice-Consul for Britain; Mr. R. B. Moorhead, Assistant Commissioner of Customs; Mr. J. Deveria, I.M.C.; Mr. E. Girault, Lieut. Godricho, A.D.C.; Lieut. L. Marques, R. I.; Mrs. Moore; Captain McKenzie, of the s.s. *Kiang Yung*, Mr. and Mrs. S. Noronha, Mrs. L. Lopes, Mrs. C. Cabral, Dr. Barbosa de Lemos; Mr. J. Boardman, and Mr. J. B. Paterson, of the s.s. *Heungshan*; Mr. Grainger, Mr. Coulton, Mr. G. Hoyes, of the Green Island Cement Co.; Mr. A. Roberts, Mrs. J. J. Watson, Mr. Ip Loy San, Mr. J. de Souza, P. Gutierrez, and Mr. J. Santos.

The menu was as follows:—

Caviare on Toast.	Stuffed Olives.
SOUP.	
Turtle.	
FISH.	
Boiled Garoupa, Parsley Sauce.	
ENTREES.	
Grilled Pigeon, Mushroom Sauce	
Butter Chicken Stewed Prawn, white sauce	
Pate de Foie Gras in Jelly	
Iced Asparagus, Mayonnaise Sauce.	
ROAST.	
Roast Turkey and Sausages	
Roast Saddle of Mutton	York Ham.
CURRY.	
Chicken a la Indienne.	
VEGETABLES.	
Boiled Potatoes	Green Peas
Baked Tomatoes	Parsnips.
DESSERTS.	
Plum Pudding	Pineapple Ice Cream.
Champagne, Moet, and Chandon.	

The military band played the following programme of music during dinner:—
 March "Inauguration of Electric Light" Hamm
 Overture ... "Eliana e Claudio" ... Mercadante
 Valse ... "Fairy Visions" ... Coote
 Selection ... "La Mascotte" ... Audran
 Valse ... "Messenger of Love" ... Coote
 Gavotte ... "First Primrose" ... Eilenberg
 Selection "The Pirates of Penzance" A. Sullivan
 Polka ... "Bric a Brac" ... Coote

REVIEWS.

The World's History. Vol. II. *Oceania, Eastern Asia, and the Indian Ocean.* Edited by Dr. H. F. HELMUT. London: William Heinemann.

THIS is a somewhat bulky quarto volume of about 650 pages. The editor claims for this "survey of man's record," as its sub-title is, that it is the first in which it has been possible to trace historical evolution, for the divisions adopted have been made solely with an eye to what have become the historical characteristics of sharply differentiated zones of population in what was once the homogeneous human race. Thus the first volume was dedicated to the American branch of the genus, which has developed in the course of centuries into a distinct species; in the third volume (which was second in order of publication) the destinies were followed of that other racial unity, the peoples of Western Asia and Africa; and in the one now before us the gap dividing these two races is filled by depicting the link that connects them, the civilisation of East Asia and Oceania in all their sub-divisions.

If we give a brief outline of the method followed in writing the history of Eastern Asia the reader will be able the better to form an idea of the general scope of the work as well as of its great interest and value to the student of history. The chapter on Eastern Asia which embraces China, Japan, and Corea, covers 121 pages. Each country is separately dealt with, and sub-headings are given to particular epochs. Thus we find the history of China divided into the following sections:—(a) The name; (b) the country and its population; (c) The mythical period; (d) the legendary period; (e) the religion, philosophy and civilisation of the ancient Chinese; (f) the ancient history of China; (g) Buddhism in China; (h) the medieval history of China; (i) the beginnings of Christianity in China (635-1368); (k) China during the period of transition from medieval to modern times; the Ming dynasty (1368-1644); (l) the second period of Christianity in China (from 1581); (m) the modern history of China; (n) retrospect. The remainder of the volume is written much on the same general plan. Herr Max von Brandt, formerly German Resident Minister in Japan and Ambassador to China, is the author of the entire chapter on Eastern Asia, and so far as our knowledge can test it, he has done his work remarkably well. Accuracy is not its only characteristic; the history has the great merit of being succinctly written, and in a style which does not weary the reader.

The other chapters in the volume deal in a similar way with Central Asia and Siberia; Australia and Oceania; India; Indonesia; and the historical importance of the Indian Ocean. There are maps and numerous plates interspersed in the book, and it is furnished with an excellent index.

The China Martyrs of 1900. By ROBERT COVENTRY FORSYTH. London: Religious Tract Society.

MANY books have been published during the past three years describing the memorable fanatical rising of the "Boxers" in the northern provinces of China in the year 1900, and the tragic consequences to hundreds of foreign residents in the interior. From none of them will the reader get a more vivid picture of the horrors of the period than is presented to him in the somewhat bulky volume before us. The aim of the writer has been to describe the effects of the rising on missions and missionaries in China, but owing to the wealth of material he has had to confine himself to a description of events affecting only the Protestant missionary body. We need hardly say that it requires a strong nerve to read these vivid accounts of the

horrible barbarities of the savage hordes who made this lurid page in the history of foreign intercourse with China, but these missionary annals had to be written, and they form about the most gruesome of all that the shelves of the missionary societies contain. The book constitutes "a complete roll of the Christian heroes martyred in China in 1900, with narratives of survivors." Though the writer has confined himself to a description of events as they affected Protestant missionaries only, the reader is often incidentally reminded in the narratives that Roman Catholic Missions suffered the same perils and dangers, and he might safely conclude that their roll of martyrs is equally as long as the Protestant list. It is for the same reasons of time and space that the writer has given only a selection of the marvellous tales of the escapes of Protestant missionaries from the hands of their enemies.

The author admits that the propagation of Christianity played an important part in the creation of the ferment among the people which culminated in the rising, but would seem to imply that "the introduction (by the hated foreign devil) of the national curse of the opium habit" was a far more potent cause. This is how the writer puts it: "The new ways introduced by the hated foreign devil, who is responsible amongst other things for the introduction of the national curse of the opium habit, which is eating out the vital powers of the nation, have caused, and are causing, the bitterest spirit of animosity in the people generally." The supposition underlying this statement that China was innocent of opium until the hated "foreign devil" arrived with the drug from India, is an entirely erroneous one, though sedulously propagated by a goodly number of missionaries, and we should seriously question the statement that the prevalence of the opium habit is or ever was a cause of bitter animosity towards the foreigner.

We have only to add that short biographical notes are given in the concluding chapter of the book concerning the martyrs, and interspersed throughout the book there are 144 portraits and other illustrations.

Far Eastern Impressions. By ERNEST F. G. HATCH, M.P. London: Hutchinson & Co.

It was perhaps a difficult matter to select a title for a book like this which would convey to the public a proper idea of its nature, but it is easier to say that the choice of the title is unfortunate than to suggest a better one. Readers of literature—we ought rather to say books—concerning the Far East have no consuming desire to read the "Impressions" of a Globetrotter, because experience has taught that they are usually of no value and of no interest unless the contortion of facts is so gross as to make them humorous. Mr. Hatch's book, however, is of a different stamp, and is worthy of a place on the bookshelf. Its value to people already acquainted with the Far East consists not so much in the interesting "impressions" the author formed of the people of Japan, Corea and China, as on account of the information he has collected with regard to modern developments in China and Corea about which the public generally have very hazy ideas. We get not only the "impressions" of a business man, but much of the information he collected during his tour, and it is information about mining operations in Corea, as well as in China, and about the foreign railway concessions which will interest the "China hand" more than any of the other interesting chapters of the book.

Before coming to this information we are interested greatly in the introductory chapter to the China "impressions" in which Mr. Hatch reviews the Far Eastern Problem and quotes from his diary the records he made after conversations with Kang Yu Wei, the Reformer the late Li Hung Chang, and Sir Robert Hart. The march of Russia was the principal political topic of the time, as it has been ever since, and Mr. Hatch rightly places on the shoulders of Li Hung Chang the responsibility for the modern misfortunes of China, for without his aid it would have been impossible for Russia to have won the astounding diplomatic successes she did. Curiously enough, Sir Robert Hart entertained the opinion that Russia could not if she would, make any great encroachment upon China, and he told Mr. Hatch that Russia would like to buy the Northern Railway because

it is a good commercial undertaking, but for no other reason. Could innocence go farther? True the designs of Russia were not so clearly revealed then as they subsequently were, but Sir Robert Hart's views were certainly not shared by his fellow countrymen in positions of "greater freedom and less responsibility," and events have amply justified their fears. Mr. Claude Kinder, C.M.G., the manager of the Northern Railway Company, was so far from sharing the views of Sir Robert Hart that he maintained that if an alliance were not formed with America and Japan to keep Russia out of Manchuria by force all China, including Hongkong, would eventually become Russian, and the conquest of India by Russia and the downfall of the British Empire would follow. "At the Embassy there was not the apprehension which existed outside as to the injurious consequences which would result from the purchase of the Northern Railway by Russia," but as Mr. Hatch further on observes, recent events have only strengthened the view entertained by the unofficial community that on no account should we permit the British interests in the line to pass into other hands.

The chapter dealing with the railway concessions is, as we have said, a very informing one. Few people are aware of the extent of this railway development, and will be surprised to learn that the concessions already obtained represent a mileage of 5,051, while an additional 2,080 miles are covered by the concessions contemplated. If we exclude the Manchurian lines, the greatest mileage in the list is British, but Mr. Hatch points out that we do not occupy the position in the field of Chinese railway development which is ours by virtue of our enormous trade interests in the country and (until recent years) our predominating political influence. "Less than a fifth of the concessions granted are in respect of British lines. We have only a fourth greater mileage than Belgium, and but an eighth in excess of Germany." And Mr. Hatch goes on to say, "If we look at accomplished work we are even less advantageously placed, for what little has been done by British capitalists outside the Peking Syndicate area, the Belgians, the French and the Germans are all well under weigh with most important schemes." Attention is called by the author to the delay in the construction of the Canton-Kowloon line as well as to other notable concessions held by the British and Chinese Corporation which are still to a considerable extent on paper.

Equally interesting are the pages which deal with the valuable mining concessions in Shansi that the Peking syndicate are exploiting. In the concluding chapters we have some interesting speculations as to the political future of China and her relations with the Powers. The author looks forward to an alliance of England and the United States as one of the certainties of a future which is not distant. Mr. Hatch pleads for a thoroughly organised and well-equipped Asiatic Department in our Foreign Office. In the final chapter he discusses the effect of Japan's successes on the Asiatic mind, and urges that the Japanisation of China must be resisted.

The book is well worth reading. The letterpress is interspersed with eighty-eight illustrations, and there are three useful maps. Messrs. Kelly and Walsh have the book on sale.

China From Within: A Study of Opium Fallacies and Missionary Mistakes. By ARTHUR DAVENPORT. London: T. Fisher Unwin.

There is a technique to be learnt in the trade of authorship as in every other line, and Mr. Davenport has not mastered that technique. But in spite of its technical faults this book should be read for the information it gives on subjects of popular interest about which the public generally have very little accurate knowledge. In his study of opium fallacies the author analyses the literature of the Anti-Opium League and exposes the fallacies which underlie many of its premises. Exeter Hall congregations are told that Great Britain forced the opium traffic on China fifty years ago by a war, but as a matter of fact the Arabs introduced the poppy into China in the eighth century, and Chinese records of the Ming Dynasty mention it as among the flora of Yunnan, where it is indigenous. It was first licensed as an article of import in 1722. Our readers may be pre-

sumed to know sufficient of the "Arrow" war at Canton to render it superfluous on our part to review at any length Mr. Davenport's refutation of the statement that this was waged to force opium upon the innocent Chinese. The author takes occasion to remind the reader that there was a time in the history of China when the prevalence of drunkenness called for stern repressive measures, and the substitution of opium as a narcotic has made the Chinese a very sober people who in that respect compare more than favourably with the people of the more enlightened nations of the west.

The bulk of the book, which is one of about 300 pages, is occupied with a review of the Missionary question. Mr. Davenport discusses the subject as a Christian believer, and the extent of his knowledge of Chinese affairs, gathered during a long residence in China, makes this portion of the book extremely interesting and instructive. The author points out that many of the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith are fundamentally opposed to Chinese ideas. The wonderful success of the early Jesuits in China, he says, was attained not by teaching and preaching incomprehensible dogmas, but by their practical knowledge of the arts and sciences, and he suggests this as an example for the Modern Missionary. "With regard to the spiritual work, in order to compete successfully with Islam we require a simplified Christianity based on the direction of St. Paul to the Corinthians: 'The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.' We must give up not only our Bibliomancy, but also our cherished dogma of the absolute infallibility of the Bible." In the methods of the missionaries Mr. Davenport finds much to condemn, and though one may not agree with every view the author puts forward, his case generally is one which carries conviction. The author takes from the Report of the London Missionary Society of 1900 the statement that "Political unrest continues, and though for the present the forces of reaction triumph, slowly yet surely a new China is coming into existence. To that end Christian Missions are contributing largely through their educational work, and the distribution of Christian literature and Western knowledge." Mr. Davenport condemns this assumption of the role of reforming politicians, and declares that so long as this unwarranted interference with the home affairs of an independent people continues, so long will there be repetitions of massacres and outrages, which constitute a grave blot on missionary enterprise in China. Pressed to its logical conclusion, this is an argument for totally abandoning mission work in China, and in other parts of the book it is apparent that the writer is persuaded that this charity which is lavished on China by missionary societies should begin at home, where its need is certainly overwhelming.

The Japan of To-day. By HELEN JEROME
Published by the N.S.W. Bookstall Co.,
Sydney.

A pleasing little book about the Mikado's country from a woman's viewpoint. It is well written and very instructive. The authoress displays no mock modesty. She writes about things just as she found them. Naturally the "position of woman" in Japan is a subject which seems to have especially attracted her attention, and she finds much to condemn in the attitude of men towards their wives and women-folk. Perhaps, however, the chapter of most interest is that dealing with the majority of Europeans in Japan, and it applies just as much to Hongkong and the East generally as to Japan. Regarding the typical European young man in Japan Miss Jerome writes:—His sudden elevation to the command of a comparative retinue of servants demoralises—to begin with—his manners. Transported from European and American homes, conducted on the small scale made necessary by the higher price of labour in those countries, out to Japan, where salaries are much higher, living cheaper, and servants a *sine qua non*, the white man suddenly awakens to the fact that he commands a position, perhaps for the first time in his life. His wife institutes new social customs, for she is a luxury in Japan, and revels in the fact that bachelors, young fellows perhaps away for the good of their families, are at her mercy. . . . The white residents, depending

solely upon each other for their amusements, have much time upon their hands wherewith to model each others' characters, which they proceed to do in the way best known to our sex. Work being suspended earlier than at home in the summer months, men fall into the habit of cultivating the society of women, their friends' wives, at afternoon tea functions, where possibly the enervating heat of the climate makes any conversation of an intelligent nature very fatiguing. The ricksha takes the visitors home to their excellently-appointed bachelor establishments, where a special cook helps to make life pleasant for them. Quite young fellows have their bachelor establishments, employing from two to five servants, amongst whom is invariably a "boy" who acts as valet to the pampered young clerk, who probably blackened, quite willingly, his own boots at home.

The writer deals equally forcibly, if unmercifully, with other subjects, such as "Cliques," "European Women in the Far East," etc., so that though she occasionally falls into misconceptions common to all globetrotters her book is well worth reading.

THE LOSS OF H.M.S. "SPARROW-HAWK."

The N.-C. Daily News of the 20th inst. contains the following details of this disaster:

H.M. torpedo-boat-destroyer *Fame* arrived here on Saturday afternoon with the news that the destroyer *Sparrowhawk* had struck a rock near the Saddles and had sunk. The *Fame* made the run from the Saddles to Shanghai in three hours, or at the rate of more than 25 miles per hour. From information courteously furnished to our representative by the officers of the *Fame*, we learn that during Friday night the *Sparrowhawk* struck an uncharted rock to the north-east of Chesney Island. The chart shows a depth of 8 fathoms of water where the *Sparrowhawk* struck, but it is said that the rock is awash at low water, spring tides. H.M. battleship *Glory* and the torpedo-boat-destroyer *Fame* stood by the *Sparrowhawk* and the officers and crews worked hard all night, under the superintendence of the flag-captain, Captain Hon. W. G. Stopford, with the result that the *Sparrowhawk* was towed off early on Saturday morning. She was brought alongside the *Glory* and a collision mat fixed underneath her, covering the rent made by the rock, but at 4 a.m. she commenced to settle down, and at 7 a.m. sank in 8 fathoms of water. She struck a pinnacle rock, which pierced her plating just abaft the third funnel. Fortunately only the forward furnaces were alight; had all her furnaces been at work it is probable that the vessel would have been blown to pieces. As it was, no lives were lost and all her guns, torpedoes, loose gear and ammunition were saved. It is supposed that the engine room-bulkhead gave way after the *Sparrowhawk* was towed off and the vessel snapped between the third and fourth funnels.

Chesney Island is off the north end of Raffles, one of the Parker group, bearing about 12 miles west from the South Saddle Island, and rocks and islets extend two miles further northward. It is worthy of note that in 1872 the *Tonbridge* was said to have struck a rock 2½ miles northward of Chesney Island, but Captain Andersen of the C. I. revenue cruiser *Kwatsing*, reported that such a rock did not exist. H.M.S. *Magpie* remained at anchor near the reported position of Tonbridge Rock during two spring tides, but no indication of a rock or shoal was seen.

A serious fire is reported to have occurred on the 16th ult. at the London Docks in the Ocean Steamship Company's warehouse. A large quantity of Manila hemp ex the steamer *Peless* was affected, and this hemp is stated to be insured under marine and transit policies. The Ocean Company's (A. Holt and Co.) steamer *Peless* arrived in London at the beginning of the month and went on to Liverpool, reaching there on May 9. She is 7,441 tons. "It was expected in some quarters," says the shipping representative of the *Times*, "that the loss would fall on the fire insurance companies, but this, I understand, will not be the case."

FRIGHTFUL BARBARITY BY PIRATES.

A frightful attack, the *Chung Ngoi San Po* says, was made by pirates on a passing junk on the 7th instant at Ho Pan Wan, near Ngai-moon. A large number of pirates in ten long boats were lying in wait for their prey at the above-mentioned place. A passing junk observed them, and fearing an attack took the first opportunity to fire a small cannon at them. Three of their long boats were sunk. The pirates, greatly enraged, returned the compliment. The junk was soon overpowered, and the pirates jumped on board the junk, butchered the master and the whole crew, and then forced all the passengers, numbering over forty, to go down to the hold, which they securely nailed up. After they had completely ransacked the junk and secured all the valuables they set fire to it. The junk was burnt to the water's edge, and not a single passenger escaped. When the case came to the knowledge of the soldiers stationed in Chu Tan-Shan, in the vicinity of the scene, the officer in charge of the garrison at once proceeded with a good number of soldiers on the track of the pirates. The natives of the neighbourhood reported that pirates were often seen bringing their spoils into a certain village. The soldiers proceeded to this place, and obliged the elders and gentry to hunt out the criminals and deliver them up. At last several pirates were arrested, and the soldiers also secured rifles and some letters demanding money by menace. As soon as the criminals were brought to Canton a man surname Leung, saying that he was a Christian, proceeded to the yamen and wanted to bail out the pirates, but his request was refused.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT QUARRY BAY.

A fatal accident occurred at Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's shipyard shortly before 11 a.m. on Saturday the 25th inst. resulting in one death and several cases of injury. It appears that some native labourers were engaged in hoisting broken stone of various sizes by means of a derrick-crane. As the bucket was being raised loaded with this material the racing wheel of the crane broke, and the consequent strain thrown upon the crank-pins of the bucket caused them to snap. The bucket capsized, and the contents fell upon some men at work below. One man was killed instantly, and two more seriously injured. The body of the man killed was removed to the mortuary attached to the shipyard, the injured being conveyed to the Alice Memorial Hospital. The man in charge of the crane, in trying to stop the racing wheel, was unfortunate enough to get one of his hands caught in the machinery. Several fingers will probably have to be amputated.

AN INDIAN WEDDING.

INTERESTING MAHOMEDAN CEREMONY AT HONGKONG.

Probably a Mahomedan wedding has never been described in a Hongkong newspaper before. On Saturday the 25th instant Mr. Shiek Carreem Halleem, of the Hongkong Post Office, was married to Miss Amina Razack. The bridegroom's house in Upper Lascar Row was besieged by a curious crowd of Chinese—men, women and children, particularly children—who, figuratively speaking, were packed in the street like so many sardines. Upstairs the visitors were received by one of the two best men, Messrs. A. R. Fatch Deen and A. K. Dal Basha, who, together with others, were actively engaged in dispensing light refreshments.

The first ceremony, that of dressing the bridegroom, was performed by Mr. Hagee Ismail. The young man was helped into a gorgeous red satin jacket lined with blue satin. A red silk sash was put around his waist, a gold turban with streamers in front was placed on his head, and a sheathed dagger in his belt. Bouquets of flowers sprinkled with otto of roses were then distributed, and Mr. A. H. Ahmet afterwards, on behalf of the guests, presented a diamond scarf pin to Mr. Halleem. Mr. Omar Kitchell acknowledged the compliment on behalf of the bridegroom.

The most interesting part of the ceremony was the procession from the house of the bridegroom to that of the bride. A lantern procession walked in front, and the two best men and bridegroom followed mounted on horses. These shied at the sudden appearance of lighted torches; the crowd, too, found the smoke and sparks from the torches very unpleasant, and from one cause or the other the crowd was constantly surging backwards and forwards until something like a panic seemed to have been created. It was a very great relief to everyone when the animals ceased their crab-like movements and walked forward like civilised beasts. The procession wended its way along Upper Lascar Row, East Street and Lower Lascar Row, returning to Upper Lascar Row, for the bride's house was really only a few doors from the bridegroom's, by way of West Street. The ground floor of the bride's house was decorated with a profusion of bunting, Japanese lanterns, baskets of flowers and strings of sweet-smelling jasmine. The bridegroom, the two best men, the priest, and the bride's grandfather, acting as attorney for the bride, squatted down in the centre of the room, being faced by jars of flowers and sweetmeats, which were afterwards distributed. The room was fearfully hot and the visitors, all with hats on, and many with foot-gear off, almost tired themselves by industrious use of the fan. The priest proceeded with the ceremony in low chanting tones, taking his words, no doubt, from the Koran.

The bridegroom and others next went upstairs, demanding an entrance into the bride's chamber. In spite of repeated hammering at the door the bridegroom was kept outside for a considerable length of time, only being admitted on "paying." The bride was sitting on the bed with a red cloth completely covering her, and that is all the visitors saw of her. After refreshments the company dispersed. The newly-wedded young lady followed her spouse home in a chair.

LOCAL SPORT.

This being practically mid-summer, there is, of course, very little doing in Hongkong sporting circles. Launch parties and picnics are in fashion, young and old seeking the cooler breezes outside the hill-locked harbour, and finding places where they can splash in water free of the usual adulterations with which bathers within the harbour limits get acquainted.

The European branch of the Young Men's Christian Association ought soon to have a strong Athletic Club, and it is to be hoped that in the near future it will be in a position to place strong teams of various description on the local sporting field. At present the members are confining themselves mostly to launch parties to Stonecutter's Island, where an appetite for tea is acquired by swimming and water-polo practice. Some of the members, it may be remarked, are still in the "life-buoy stage," so their association with the Club has afforded them the means of learning how to swim.

Tubbing is in progress at the Victoria Recreation Club, though the low tides in alternate weeks greatly mar the sport, often keeping many would-be swimmers out of the water. Some, though, swim day-in-day-out, using boats when there is not enough water in the basin. Generally, however, one can plunge from the outside diving-board, always excepting when the locality is infested with jelly-fish. Sometimes it is found necessary to beach these pests, which have a nasty knack of sinking when you try to net them. They always come up, too, where they are least wanted. Personally I regard that "shark story" told by my *confrère* "Banyan" as, to use a slang expression, "bunkum." One man who had been out tubbing assured me that he had seen a shark jump clear out of the water! As it is well known that sharks never jump his apparition must have been a porpoise—there are, it is said, many porpoises here. Probably "Banyan's" sharks were of the same brand. The fact that sharks are to be seen at the market proves nothing, as these are caught outside. It is argued then "if they are outside they must be inside;

what about Sydney?" The answer is that Sydney is a quieter harbour than Hongkong, and is therefore more likely to be infested by sharks. No one is afraid of sharks in Colombo harbour.

I see in the *Daily Press* that the V.R.C. is holding a Water Carnival next month. If it is conducted on the same lines as the last one we can look forward to it with pleasurable anticipations of good sport.

The Golf Club is in full swing. The second competition for the Ross Farewell Cup, presented by Mr. K. McKenzie Ross on his departure from the Colony, was played on the 18th to the 20th inst. As the best card returned was not quite in order the committee has not yet decided what is to be done about the matter. A cup presented by Deputy Inspector-General Drew, R.N., on his departure from Hongkong is to be played for, match play on handicap, shortly; there are no less than 44 entries. The Captain's (Mr. C. W. May's) Cup is to be played off at the end of next week. This competition is played on the first Saturday to Monday in each month, and the winners of each competition play off, match play, at the end of the year.

The Kowloon Bowling Green Club is as popular as ever, and the condition of the green is very creditable to those responsible for it. Bowls may or may not be "an old woman's game," but it certainly is a very suitable pastime for Hongkong's hot season, to say nothing about its sociability, affording as it does equal amusement for the ladies as for their husbands. The daily afternoon tea-parties—for they can be called nothing else—are certainly very pleasing. At present the Club is playing off three competitions, i.e., "The Championship," "the President's Prize," and "the Vice-President's Prize." The contests may last till the end of the year.

Talking about bowls, we must not forget the Civil Service Cricket Club, which can certainly claim to be as adaptive to the different seasons as any other Club in the Colony. They recently returned a portion of their nicely-situated little ground at Happy Valley, and a bowling contest is now in full swing. Perhaps no sporting club here is better attended by its members than the C.S.C.C.

Things at the Hongkong Boat Club are pretty slack just now, though a few enthusiasts go out in dinghys every evening for a splash to release themselves from office dust. The gymnasium with its punching-bags, etc., is used to some extent; and one or two crews go out regularly. When the Boat Club share the proposed new building on the Hongkong side with the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club both rowing and sailing ought to receive an impetus; many yachtsmen, no doubt, will take up sculling and *vice versa*.

The Craigengower Cricket Club, whose premises are at Happy Valley, play a tennis tournament next month. The men are practising hard, four courts going every day. The members of the Club will be "at home" to their friends some day next month, on the occasion of giving away the prizes for the last tournament.

From time to time recently we have seen baseball matches here, played between various ships of the U.S. Far Eastern Squadron, but the game has not yet got a hold on the Colony. Englishmen here do not seem to care for it, and the Americans prefer their recreation in the milder form of billiards.

Regarding billiards, I think it would be a good idea to put up a cup for the Championship of the Colony. We have several good billiard players here. Personally my favourite is Sergt. Morris, of the Army Pay Department, who recently played a visitor for \$300 a side. Sergt. Morris beat his opponent by some 150 points. Included in the first rank of our players are Messrs. E. H. Hinds, A. G. Stokes, A. I. Ellis, C. M. P. Remedios, J. A. Carvalho, W. Rose and A. Hughes. Mr. Hinds, it will be remembered, beat Roberts in a game of

1,000-up in which the latter gave his opponent 650 points. He ran out with an unfinished 40 odd when Roberts had only reached 505. There are several good Chinese billiard players too. Master Wei Yuk, son of the Hon. Wei Yuk, is in fact, one of the best juvenile players we have. He is a youngster in his teens.

The Water Polo Association meeting has been greatly delayed by the absence of Mr. A. Humphreys, the secretary, who is away at Shanghai on a holiday. On two occasions the Club did what they liked with the Royal Artillery. The Engineers were to have played the V.R.C. on Thursday, but as only two of the soldiers turned up a scratch match had to be substituted. There seems to be little doubt that a V.R.C. team—that is "V.R.C." "Volunteers" or what-not—will win the shield again this year.

The first round of the Chess Championship Competition has almost been played out. The contest Kemp v. Moses was won by the former. In the first instance Moses opened, second move, with K—KB3, Kemp replying with the Petroff's defence. Pollock v. Newborn has not yet been decided, but Pollock has won the first game; Newborn opened with Ruy Lopez. Falloon has knocked out Swaby. In the first game he secured white, and was answered with the Petroff's defence. Swaby tried the somewhat unused King's Bishop Gambit in the second game, but without success. Danenberg opened with Ruy Lopez in his first game against Dastur, and won. He won his second game replying with the Petroff's defence. The first round has to be completed before the end of the month.

OMPAX.

JUBILEE FUND—HOSPITAL ACCOUNT.

Following is the statement of accounts in connection with the above fund, which has now been closed:—

RECEIPTS.

Transfer from general account (including interest to Feb. 28, 1899) ...	\$97,849.92
Interest from Feb. 28, 1899, to closing of account.....	17,898.70
	\$115,548.62

EXPENDITURE.

Contract for preparing site, &c.....	\$ 7,500.00
Contract for superstructure	84,936.68
Goods obtained from England	10, 31.45
Gas service	1,900.00
Hot water service	1,956.25
Cold water service	1,446.59
Electric Bells	225.00
Fittings purchased locally.....	93.00
Architects' commission, including payment for plans of Nursing Institute, not built	\$7,486.33
Less premium paid for competition plans	1,000.00
	6,486.33
Premia for plans submitted in competition	1,950.00
Overseer's wages	1,939.75
Gas fittings purchased from Government	406.00
Miscellaneous	20.00
	118,891.05
Less amount paid by Government.....	3,342.43
	115,548.62

(Sd.) W. CHATHAM, (Sd.) T. P. COCHRANE,
Hon. Secretary. Hon. Treasurer.

The working hours in all departments of the City government of Manila are in future to be from 7 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., except Saturdays, when they are to be from 7.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

The *N.-C. Daily News* announces on good authority that Mr. F. N. Dresing has been appointed by the Chinese Telegraph authorities to be Chief Superintendent of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, with headquarters in the Shanghai Office, on the Bund.

FRONTIER NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

16th June.

CROPS.

The paddy promises to be an excellent crop and is now well in ear over most parts of the country. Lichees are an exceptionally good crop. The pineapple crop will soon come in, and looks like being plentiful.

CUSTOMS.

The following have succeeded in passing the Imperial Customs examination in Chinese:—Messrs. E. C. Tregillus, J. H. Schluter, H. A. Adamsen, C. F. A. Sachau, J. S. Chubb, W. J. Potter, E. M. Lundberg, C. F. Wallis, F. Pawelka, L. A. Sellevold, L. J. Borgest, P. F. Corbin, J. B. Moller, A. D. Nelson, J. W. Adams, C. L. Hack, and F. G. McIntosh.

HONGKONG.

Sir Mathew Nathan leaves for Hongkong on the 1st July.

It is said that the new tramways will begin running on the 1st of August—in about six weeks' time.

Incoming river steamers report an unusual number of dead bodies floating in the Canton waterway.

Sir Henry Blake appears from the latest Ceylon papers to have completely recovered from his recent accident.

Saturday, the 5th day of the 5th moon, was the Chinese festival of *Tien-chung-chieh*—the Dragon Boat Festival.

A goodly crowd assembled at the Metropole Theatre on Saturday evening to witness the initial performance of a series of weekly entertainments to be given in the theatre attached to the Hotel.

Fire broke out at Nos. 39a and 41, Bonham Strand, the premises of a paper merchant, yesterday morning about 10 o'clock. The Brigade, under Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Deputy Superintendent of Police, got the blaze under in about an hour. A large quantity of paper was destroyed. The third floor was burned out, while the ground, first and second floors were damaged by water. The premises, we understand, were covered by insurance to the extent of \$10,000.

On Monday, the 20th inst. there took place at Happy Valley the funeral of Police Constable (1) John Garrety, who was drowned on the previous day in the launch basin at Tsimshatsui Station while bathing. Deceased was 25 years of age and served through the South African campaign in the Sherwood Foresters. He held three army medals. It appears that he went in bathing with a party of nine or ten others in the basin, a popular resort of the Tsimshatsui police in the hot weather. He dived in, but failed to come up. Among so many bathers his absence was not noticed for some time. It seems that Garrety suffered from a weak heart, and that failure of its action led to the fatality. A large number of the Hongkong Police Force attended the funeral.

The *Yellow Dragon* (the monthly magazine of Queen's College) mentions that on May 2nd the number of admissions to the College since it was opened 42½ years ago reached the figure of 10,000. The Editor concludes an article on the subject with these remarks:—"Sir William des Vœux, at the last Prize Distribution in the Central School in January, 1888, spoke to the following effect: 'The chief point I consider admirable about this school is its missionary work and purpose. The young men that complete their course of studies here are scattered over the vast empire of China and cannot fail to disseminate those Western ideas they have acquired in this school and that appreciation of British government impressed upon them by their residence in this British Colony.' His Excellency rightly grasped the situation, but I doubt that its full magnitude could have been realised by him. Say 9,000 boys have left this College and one-third are scattered on the mainland; then we have a small army of 3,000 unpaid missionaries spreading Western ideas, and it must not be forgotten that of these missionaries not a few have been martyrs in the cause of civilisation."

Lieut. F. Smyth has resigned his commission in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

The Indian native infantry programme for the ensuing year shows that the 93rd Burma Infantry will be transferred from Hongkong to Mandalay; the 14th Mahrattas to Poona, and the 110th to Bhuj. The reliefs will consist of the 96th Berar Infantry, from Aurangabad; the 129th Baluchis from Karachi, and the 119th Infantry from Baroda.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has received a telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies stating that on his recommendation His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the grant of the Imperial Service Order to Mr. Charles Ford, recently Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department.

On the 24th instant Messrs. Hughes and Hough sold the wreck of the French steamer *Hoihuo*, as she now lies stranded in the South Channel Hainan Strait, near Hainan Head, by public auction. The bidding was started at \$1,000, and went up by bids of \$100 to \$9,900, at which figure it was knocked down to Mr. A. R. Marty.

A local yachtsman gives it as his opinion that the "sharks," numbers of which are reported to have been seen in the harbour recently, are not sharks at all but sunfish, several of which he has noticed within the last week or two about Lyeemoon. The sunfish is about three or four feet in length and has a dorsal fin that shows above water in the same way as a shark's does.

As regards its general appearance, the Mahomedan Cemetery at Happy Valley compares very unfavourably with the other cemeteries adjoining it. A casual visit to the place would lead one to suppose that it had been untended for several years. Near at the entrance are two tombs built of marble well kept and trim, but the other graves are almost without exception in bad repair, sunken and dilapidated. Considering that the Mahomedan community subscribes annually for the up-keep of the cemetery, it is rather strange that such a state of things should exist. Some years ago it was the custom to hold a meeting of subscribers to pass the accounts and hear a report upon the state of the cemetery and the mosque, but it appears that no such meeting has been convened for the last three or four years.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Shanghai has provided itself with a "Black Maria" for the conveyance of prisoners from police station to gaol.

The Foochow *Echo* records with great regret the death of Professor B. H. Marsh, after a very short illness.

The *Tweeddale* with the first shipment of coolies for the Transvaal arrived at Durban on the 18th inst. Three deaths occurred during the voyage, and 44 cases of beri-beri.

The firm of Arnhold, Karberg & Co. are installing the electric light in the Legation Quarter at Peking. It is stated that the Diplomatic Corps have decided that the affairs of the entire Quarter shall in future be administered by one body in the form of a municipality.

The *N.C. Daily News* states authoritatively that the official enquiry held at Weihaiwei showed that Mr. Soper was accidentally washed overboard from his yacht during the voyage from Dalny; and that there was no reason for any suspicion of foul play in the matter.

The Peking correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writes:—"The burglary which recently occurred at Sir Robert Hart's has just come to light by the confession of a coolie who has been employed on the place for the past seven years. Suspicion had always pointed to some one of the servants owing to the adroitness with which the intruder had entered the house. The coolie made a voluntary confession and directed some members of the Customs to a well in which he told them he had thrown such things as were of no value to him. Everything was recovered in fairly good condition except the silver which the coolie had appropriated to his needs and the documents, which were considerably damaged by the water. The coolie was discharged and received no further punishment."

A very fine new building on the Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, has been opened as the official residence and office of the Italian Consul General.

A Chinese carpenter passing through Singapore from Hongkong to Penang was fined five dollars for importing prohibited coin. The money, \$32 Mexican and a Japanese yen, was forfeited.

Telegraphic information was received on the 20th inst. by His Lordship Bishop Piazzoli of the death of His Lordship Monsignor Guidi, the Papal delegate for the Philippines. Monsignor Guidi was in Hongkong recently on a holiday for the benefit of his health, and only returned to Manila two or three weeks ago, apparently much benefited by the change. The news of his sudden demise came as a surprise to the Roman Catholic clergy in Hongkong and Macao. The deceased prelate was only 51 years old, and his untimely death is deeply regretted by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Mr. Bennet Burleigh's opinion in a letter to the *Telegraph* is that there is the making of soldiers out of Koreans, and, with proper training, the new Japanese Military Adviser at the Korean Court, Lieut.-Colonel Nodzu, an adopted son of the famous general, will succeed in that task. Morning, noon, and eventide there is blaring of bugles and marching of Koreans through the streets of Seoul. They are at last getting a taste of the severe training of the Japanese School of Arms. Dressed in dark blue European uniforms, high-lows and all, with Frenchy-peaked caps, set off with big yellow and white shaving-brush plumes, they go to and from the exercise ground. Upon gala days they turn out, headed by a well-trained brass band, their instructor a martial German, a professor of music. A little more "smartening" or setting-up, and the Korean soldier will make a very creditable appearance indeed.

In view of the reported intention of the Russian Government to despatch later on to the Far East a large flotilla of Volunteer Fleet auxiliary cruisers and transports with the reinforcements from the Baltic, it may be of interest to give a complete list of these vessels at present marking time in idleness at Sevastopol and Odessa. They are the following:—*Smolensk*, *Orel*, *Saratoff*, and *St. Petersburg*, all four auxiliary cruisers carrying quick-firers and capable of steaming from 18 to 20 knots; *Yaroslav*, *Kostroma*, *Vladimir*, *Kieff*, *Tamboff*, and *Voronezh*, transports, most of them mounting quick-firing guns and capable of steaming from 12½ to 13 knots. The 20-knot Volunteer Fleet twin screw auxiliary cruisers *Kheron* and *Moskva*, taken over last year by the Government and drafted out to the Pacific squadron as the *Angara* and *Lena*, are shut up in Port Arthur, where the twin-screw 13-knot transport *Kazan* is now lying in the inner basin as a military floating hospital.

What is going to become of things in general, asks the Manila *Sunday Sun*, if population among the Americans in the islands goes on decreasing? Manila is rapidly being depleted of good and bad. Concerning the latter, so much the better, but when each steamer carries away good men with slight hope of their return, the question becomes serious. The number of departures is not balanced by the arrivals, and the increase of deaths over births among the Anglo-Saxon race is out of all proportion; consequently Manila will have to face a vexed problem very shortly if things continue as they are. After all it might very logically be asked, "What benefit does man or woman derive by migrating to these shores?" For three months of the year the climate is a perpetual vapour bath, though not unhealthy generally speaking, and might be endured with fortitude were salaries large enough to enable people to save and return to the States at the end of three years. But this is not the case. House-rent, living, horse-feed, and everything else is ridiculously high, and those earning what are termed fat salaries find themselves at the end of the month with outstanding accounts that they are not in a position to meet. No doubt most ventured to these islands for the "lark of the thing," but now that the lark is over, the fun has to be purchased by an empty exchequer and very possibly a bad attack of Philippinitis.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Purkill & Sons in their Silk Circular dated Shanghai, 11th June, 1904, state:—The home markets are dull. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 10.9. Raw Silk.—Only a few bales of Tsalless have changed hand, but a fair amount of business has been transacted in Chicums and Green Kashing. The market in the country keeps firm and is Tls. 30 above ours. Hand Filature.—A small business has been done for the continent, but at present there is no demand for these from America. Yellow Silk.—Nothing doing. Steam Filature.—Nothing doing. Waste.—The home markets continue very depressed and as the dealers are asking high rates for new season wastes there is no chance of business resulting. Samples of Curlies from best districts have been displayed and are about the same in colour and quality as usual; price asked is Tls. 10/15 above consumers ideas. Tussah Wastes is offering at 26-27 for 60/40 cargo. Gum Wastes are in small supply and find no buyers.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 24th June.—The prices are the same as when last reported.
 Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.65 to \$8.70 pels.
 Do. " 2, White..... 7.70 to 7.75 "
 Do. " 1, Brown..... 6.00 to 6.05 "
 Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.85 to 5.90 "
 Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.50 to 8.55 "
 Do. " 2, White..... 7.60 to 7.65 "
 Do. " 1, Brown..... 5.85 to 5.95 "
 Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.65 to 5.70 "
 Foochow Sugar Candy12.75 to 12.80 "
 Shekloong "10.85 to 10.90 "

RICE.

Hongkong, 24th June.—No demands having come forward the prices are declining.
 Saigon, Ordinary\$2.65 to \$2.70
 " Round, good quality 3.85 to 3.90
 " Long 3.95 to 4.00
 Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 2.90 to 2.95
 " Garden, " No. 1 3.20 to 3.25
 " White, 4.10 to 4.15
 " Fine Cargo 4.25 to 4.30

OPIUM.

25th June.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.
 Malwa New\$1020 to \$1060 per picul.
 Malwa Old\$1080 to \$1120 do.
 Malwa Older\$1170 to \$1210 do.
 Malwa V. Old\$1230 to \$1250 do.
 Persian fine quality....\$850 to — do.
 Persian extra fine\$880 to — do.
 Patna New\$1225 to — per chest.
 Patna Old\$1310 to — do.
 Benares New\$1190 to — do.
 Benares Old\$1210 to — do.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Shanghai, 16th June.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their Piece Goods Trade Report, state:—There is very little of general interest to report in our market this week, the near approach of the settling day no doubt exerting a deterring influence on buyers for prompt delivery. However, there are unmistakable evidences that so soon as the trying ordeal is over, there is likely to be some revival in the demand, in fact it is being already anticipated judging by the forward transactions, and also sales from stock for delivery rather beyond the customary term. The increased enquiry is very apparent, too, but the prices talked about by the dealers are not encouraging to those who are holding in the expectancy of an improvement when the demand sets in. The very shaky and uncertain position of the home markets do not inspire much hope of any further upward movement, and there is no question but that the holders of cheaply bought stocks must rule the situation, and the tendency with them is to sell. It is rather disconcerting to them, after all the reports of the mills shutting down and curtailing their production, to find now willing and even eager sellers actually for this month's shipment, as is the case with some of the makers in the States. With the dealers in full possession of the slightest movement in the home markets, and basing their current business thereon, it is positively dangerous to hold stocks here now-a-days. The lull in the war news continues, though some startling reports are momentarily expected. The situation in Newchwang is still very uncertain, but apparently

there is a certain amount of business going on, the report being that previous shipments have gone off very well and fresh orders have come down and are being executed. The quantity is variously stated, some saying it is only one thousand and others as much as five thousand bales. We may mention, however, that one of the leading lines of steamer companies had received no special application for tonnage up to this morning. Favourable reports concerning the crops in the north continue to come forward. As anticipated, immediately after our last report there was a reaction in the Liverpool cotton market and prices advanced at the close of the week, but lost part of it at the beginning of this—namely, from 6.98d. for Mid-American to 6.64d. while Egyptian is up to 7½. This morning a Manchester telegram advises the market as weaker in sympathy with cotton, though this lacks confirmation from other quarters. However, some manufacturers must be in a better position to trade than others, for business has been put through in several lines of both Greys and Whites at what seems to be reasonable prices and for comparatively early delivery. The American market is anyhow! Makers have evidently been running into stock with 3½ yard goods and want to sell badly, but there is not so much pressure with the 3 yard and standard makes. The shipments this year from New York to China to the 2nd May were only 23,168 packages against 96,357 packages last year. The market is weak for imported yarns and prices are down fully two taels from the top. One of the local mills sold a moderate quantity early in the interval, however, at about the prices ruling three weeks ago. Piece Goods.—Trade with the River does not show much improvement as yet, still deliveries in that direction might be worse and there seems every prospect of a better inquiry shortly, as the trade is sufficiently good to induce three new piece goods hongs to open there, and two have already been in this market. The Ningpo dealers are still in the market and satisfactory shipments of Grey Shirtings continue to be made thence. As mentioned above, some two thousand bales, chiefly American makes, have been taken from second hands for Newchwang and a few No. 10s Indian Yarn have also found buyers for that market. Clearances on the whole are fair for the time of the year. The dealers here are already looking forward to the trade for next year, and we understand several large orders for the late Autumn are now pending. Exchange has kept fairly steady, but is expected to decline before the end of the month when the half-yearly payments of the Indemnity money have to be remitted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 27th June.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 32.50
Do. seconds	23.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	19.00
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..	57.00
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each)	9.20
White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi)	10.70
White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu)	9.70
Green China Grass (Szechuen)	—
Jute	5.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow)	10.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchew and/or Macheng)	9.90
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu)	—
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu)	10.00
Animal Tallow	8.00
Gallnuts (usual shape)	18.40
Do. (Plum) do.	23.00
Black Bristles	124.00
Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck) ...	19.50
Do. " " Wild Duck	21.50
Turmeric	3.00
Sesamum Seed	4.50
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.90
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	7.90
Wood Oil,	8.00
Tea Oil	8.90

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, sailed on 18th June. For Manchester:—5½ bales waste silk. For Milan:—25 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—22½ bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—8½ bales raw silk, 1 case silks. For London:—35 bales raw silk, 363 packages tea, 1 case silks, 3 cases cigars, 3 cases curios, 1 case feathers, 2 cases chinaware, 2 cases personal effects, 7 packages sundries. For London or Manchester:—75 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *Agamemnon*, sailed on 24th June. For Colombo:—49 packages merchantize. For Port Said:—40 rolls matting. For Odessa:—10 cases bristles. For Fiume:—250 cases merchantize. For Antwerp:—75 bales feathers, 1,149 packages merchantize. For Rotterdam:—500 packages hemp. For Amsterdam:—500 packages hemp. For Genoa:—20 bales canes. For Hamburg:—7 cases shells. For Manchester:—100 bales water silk. For Newcastle-on-Tyne:—2 cases machinery. For Glasgow:—102 cases preserves. For London or Antwerp, Hamburg, Bremen, Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Copenhagen:—2,100 cases merchantize. For London or Hamburg:—600 cases cassia, 15 cases bristles. For Havre or Hamburg:—38 cases bristles. For London:—419 casks soy, 8,557 boxes tea, 431 packages merchantize, 681 bales hemp, 1,598 packages firecrackers, 700 bales canes, 60 bales palm leaf fans, 150 rolls matting, 426 bales feathers, 277 cases chinaware, glassware, &c., 24 packages furniture, 200 casks ginger, 40 cases essential oil, 450 cases ginger, 20 cases camphor, 200 bales chinarrout, 200 bales galangal, 150 bales waste silk, 80 cases bristles, 86 cases shells, 8 cases sundries.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 24th June, 1904.—China Sugars and Indo-Chinas have continued to attract the chief attention of operators during the past week, and a substantial advance in the former has to be recorded. In other directions a fair general business has been transacted at steady to improving rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have sold and have further sellers at \$660. London is unchanged at £66 10s. 0d. Nation is after further small sales at \$38 continue in request at that rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been placed at the advanced rate of \$545 and close steady at that rate. Further sales of North Chinas are reported at Tls. 62½. Cantons remain unchanged, but with probable buyers at quotation. No business in Yangtszes has been reported.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have ruled firm with further sales at \$310. Chinas have sold at \$86½, and continue in request.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue weak with small sales at \$29½ and further sellers at the rate. Indo-Chinas have ruled fairly steady with sales at \$ 17 and \$118 cash, and rather less than equivalent rates on time, market closing with probable buyers at \$118. China and Manilas and Douglasses continue on offer at last quotation without attracting attention. Star Ferries have been placed at the improved rates of \$33 (old) and \$24 (new) and continue in request. Shell Transports after receding to 22½ have improved to 24½ with buyers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have sold extensively at rapidly rising from \$161 to \$180, closing in further demand at \$180. Time bargains have also been booked to a fair extent, but at rather less than equivalent rates. Luzons are still out of favour at \$9 sellers.

MINING.—Rauhs have declined to \$6½ sellers. Charbonnages have improved to \$500 buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled steady, and close with small buyers at \$213. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold at \$108, and are now enquired for at \$108½. New Amoy Docks are unchanged at \$30 sellers. Farnhams are still in request locally at Tls. 156.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold and are in further request at \$158. Kowloon Lands have improved to \$37 buyers. West Point have been placed at the improved rate of \$60 and continue in demand. Hongkong Hotels are still obtainable at \$137. Humphreys Estates have sold at \$12½ and \$4½ for the old and new issues respectively, the former closing in further request. Shanghai Lands can be placed locally at Tls. 111.

COTTON MILLS.—No change in quotations and no business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$29, and \$29½ is now offered for further lots. China Borneo have improved to \$9½ buyers, and A. S. Watsons too \$13½ buyers. Electrics (old) have been placed at \$14, and (new) at \$7½. Tramways are wanted at \$280. Steam Waterboats have improved to \$17½ and Dairy Farms to \$17, both with buyers. United Asbestos have been booked at \$10½ and are in further request. Tebrans are wanted at 90 cents. China Providents have

sold at \$9½. Watkins at \$7½, and Powells at \$10½, the two last named closing with further buyers.

MEMO.—Messrs. A. S. Watson and Company, Limited, invite applications from registered shareholders for the issue of 30,000 new shares of \$10 each at a premium of 10 per cent., or say \$11 per share, to be allowed to shareholders in the proportion of one new share for every two old shares held, applications to be sent in to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Hongkong between the 28th and 30th September, 1904, both days inclusive. The full amount of \$11 per share is payable on application. Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	(\$660, sales & sel. L'don, £66. 10s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$38, sales & buyers
B. Shares	£28	\$38, sales & buyers
Foun. Shares	£21	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$545
China Traders	\$25	\$62, sales & buyers
North China	£5	Tls. 62½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$13
Canton	\$50	\$212
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, sales & buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$86½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$29½, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$118, buyers
China and Manila	\$50	\$26, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
Star Ferry	\$5	\$24, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	24/- buyers
Do. pref. shares	£10	£8. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$180, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$9, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	nominal
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts., buyers
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$500, buyers
Raubs	18 10d.	\$6½, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$213, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$108½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$30, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 156, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$158
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$37, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$60, sales & buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$137, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12½, sales & buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ld.	Tls. 50	Tls. 111, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$29½, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ld.	\$12	\$9½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13½, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14, sales
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$5	\$7½, buyers
Hongkong Rope	£10	\$160, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$50	\$140, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$48, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$25	\$225
Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ld.	\$100	\$280, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$10	\$17½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$6	\$17, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$10	\$37, sellers
United Asbestos	12/6	\$5, buyers
Do.	\$4	\$10½, sales & buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$10	\$210, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$5	90 cts., buyers
Watkins Ld.	\$10	\$9½, sales
China Light & Power Co., Ld.	\$10	\$7½, buyers
Powell, Ld.	\$10	\$10½, sales & buyers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ld.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Canton, Hongkong Ice Cigar Companies—	\$10	\$10, nominal
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$200
Phippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ld.	\$10	\$9½, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of Shanghai, in their Share Report for the week ending 16th June, state:—A fair business has been transacted during the past week, rates generally remaining steady. Langkats rose from Tls. 312½ to 317½ June. This has been the only noticeable rise during the week, excepting in S. & H. Wharves, which rose from Tls. 150 cash to 157½. The T. T. on London today is quoted 2/6½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—No business reported, and rates are purely nominal at \$605, the latest London quotation being 266.10s.—Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indos.—A cessation of buying in Hongkong, business in this stock has been confined to a few transactions for forward delivery for July, August, September and October at Tls. 83, with one quotation for September at 83½. Tug Boats.—Ordinaries have been placed at Tls. 48, and Preferences at 47. The market for this stock is steady at these rates. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co.—A good business has been done in these; the market opened at the beginning of the week with cash sales at Tls. 155; the rate rose subsequently to Tls. 156 cash and June the same rate. July shares have been placed at Tls. 158, 158½, and 159½. September shares at Tls. 161 and 161½, and for October at Tls. 163 and 164. The market closes quiet with sellers for July at Tls. 158. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. A strong demand set in by shorts to cover deliveries for June resulting in cash sales and for June at Tls. 150, 155, and 157½. The market closes weaker with sellers at Tls. 155 June. Sugars.—China Sugars have been placed at Hongkong at Tls. 164½. Peraks have been placed at Tls. 61. Mining.—Kaipings have been placed at Tls. 700 June and 720 August. Weihaiwei Golds at \$17½. Lands.—Shanghais have been placed at Tls. 109/110, and are wanted at the latter rate. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks continue neglected.—Shanghai Ices have been placed at Tls. 24, and Paper & Pulp at Tls. 125 cash and June.—Shanghai Gases at Tls. 112½. Langkats.—The market opened with sales at Tls. 312½ and 312 June. On the 10th June business was done at Tls. 312½ and October 327½. 11th at 324 September; 12th at 314 and 315 June, 320 August, 325 September; 18th at 317½ and 315 June. The Company paid their quarterly interim dividend of Tls. 10 on the 15th inst. The market is now quoted 305 sellers.—Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 60, 61½ cash, and 64 September. Stores and Hotels.—Centrals c. n. i. have been placed at \$23, Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 13. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 67, and Hesse Bazaars at Tls. 71½. Debentures.—Actor House Hotel 8 per cent. Debentures have been placed at par.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 27th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	23 1/2
Credits 4 months' sight	23 1/2
ON GERMANY.—On demand	187
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	44 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	45 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	137 1/2
Bank, on demand	137
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	137 1/2
Bank, on demand	137
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	89 1/2
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	Nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	Nom.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	109 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	62 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10 80
GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael	\$57
BAR SILVER, per oz.	25 1/2

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports (via Shanghai):—46/- plus River Freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre (via Shanghai):—Tea and General Cargo 41/6 plus River Freight. To New York (overland):—Tea 1½ Gs cents per lb. gross plus River Freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea and General Cargo 35/- per ton. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Taella, 80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

June—

ARRIVALS.

16, Marie Jøsen, German str., from Moji.
16, Persia, Austrian str., from Trieste.
17, Apenrade, German str., from Pakhoi.
17, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
17, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
17, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
17, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
17, Petrarch, German str., from Chefoo.
17, Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.
17, Yarra, French str., from Marseilles.
18, Carl Menzell, German str., from Amoy.
18, Chunsang, British str., from Bangkok.
18, Denbighshire, British str., from London.
18, Dovedale, British str., from Swatow.
18, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
18, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
18, Tean, British str., from Manila.
18, Theodor Willie, German str., from Moji.
18, Triumph, German str., from Coast Ports.
19, Breid, Norwegian str., from Penang.
19, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
19, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Tourane.
19, Forer, British str., from B rry.
19, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
19, Labor, Norwegian str., from Wakamatsu.
19, Linan, British str., from Chinkiang.
19, Thales, British str., from Tamsui.
20, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
20, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
20, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
20, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
20, General Alava, Amr. trspt, from Cavite.
20, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
21, Bucantaur, British str., from London.
21, Canton, British str., from Wuhu.
21, Hupeh, British str., from Shanghai.
21, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
21, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
21, Keemun, British str., from Liverpool.
21, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
21, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
21, Mazagon, British str., from London.
21, Nubia, German str., from Hamburg.
21, Progress, German str., from Tourane.
21, Roon, German str., from Bremen.
21, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
22, Agamemnon, British str., from Amoy.
22, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
22, C. Ferd. Laesz, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
22, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Canton.
22, Esang, British str., from Tientsin.
22, Doyle, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
22, Hue, French str., from Kwangchauwan.
22, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.
22, Orange, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
22, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
22, Prometheus, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
22, Stettin, British str., from Singapore.
22, Vale of Doon, Sarawak bte., from Rajang.
22, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Moji.
22, Zieten, German str., from Yokohama, &c.
23, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
23, Palamcotta, British str., from Rangoon.
23, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
24, Batavia, German str., from Shanghai.
24, Ceylon, British str., from Yokohama.
24, Charterhouse, British str., from Amoy.
24, Haimun, British str., from Kobe.
24, Hongmoh, British str., from Straits.
24, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
24, Jeresio, British str., from Amoy.
24, Myrmidon, Dutch str., from Samarang.
24, Spithead, British str., from Cardiff.
24, Tjimahi, Dutch str., from Japan.
24, Tremont, Amr. str., from Manila.

25, Anerley, British str., from Saigon.
 25, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 25, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 25, Lnstleigh, British str., from Barry.
 25, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
 25, Nanyang, German str., from Chefoo.
 25, Oscar II., Norwegian str., from K'notzu.
 25, Restorer, British cable str., from a cruise.
 25, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
 25, Surprise, French gunboat, from Haiphong.
 25, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 25, Tritos, German str., from Swatow.
 25, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 25, Vedra, British str., from Palo Bukum.
 26, Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
 26, Changchow, British str., from Swatow.
 26, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 26, Taiyuan, British str., from Australia

DEPARTURES.

June—

17, Dagmar, German str., for Chinkiang.
 17, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 17, Shahzad, British str., for Kobe.
 17, Taichow, German str., for Kobe.
 17, Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
 18, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 18, Coromandel, British str., for Europe.
 18, Germania, German str., for Moji.
 18, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 18, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Hermiston, British str., for Batavia.
 11, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.
 18, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 18, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Tsintau, German str., for Bangkok.
 18, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 18, Wilmington, American g.-bl., for Manila.
 18, Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.
 18, Yatsang, British str., for Singapore.
 18, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 19, Borg, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 19, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 19, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 19, Dovedale, British str., for Singapore.
 19, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.
 19, Heathburn, British str., for Ocean Island.
 19, Heathford, British str., for Newcastle.
 19, Indrasamba, British str., for Calcutta.
 19, Linan, British str., for Canton.
 19, Labor, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 19, Odd, Norwegian barque, for Bangkok.
 19, Persia, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 19, Petrarch, German str., for Canton.
 19, Themis, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 20, Apenrade, German str., for Pakhoi.
 20, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Decidee, French gunboat, for Canton.
 21, America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 21, Cather, Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
 21, Denbighshire, British str., for Kobe.
 21, Elze, German str., for Tourane.
 21, Foreric, British str., for Sasebo.
 21, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 21, Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.
 21, Meefeo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21, Petohaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 21, Taishan, British str., for Bangkok.
 21, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Canton, British str., for Canton.
 22, Emprs. of India, British str., for V'conver.
 22, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 22, Iphigenia, British cruiser, for Shanghai.
 22, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Marie Jensen, German str., for Moji.
 22, Roon, German str., for Shanghai.
 22, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 22, Tiger, German gunboat, for Canton.
 22, Triumph, German str., for Coast Ports.
 23, Bucentaur, British str., for Nagasaki.
 23, C. Ferd. Laeisz, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 23, Decima, German str., for Chefoo.
 23, Esang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 23, Johanna, British ship, for Kobe.
 23, Kansu, British str., for Tientsin.
 23, Keemun, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 23, Nubia, German str., for Shanghai.
 23, Theoder Willie, German str., for Manila.
 23, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Agamemnon, British str., for London.
 24, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 24, Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
 24, Jeresio, British str., for Singapore.
 24, Mazagon, British str., for Shanghai.

24, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 24, Zieten, German str., for Europe.
 25, Batavia, German str., for Hamburg.
 25, Ceylon, British str., for London.
 25, Fausang, British str., for Singapore.
 25, Palamotta, British str., for Amoy.
 25, Rabi, British str., for Manila.
 25, Signal, German str., for Hongay.
 25, Vindobona, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 25, Wuhu, British str., for Iloilo.
 26, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Lustleigh, British str., for Yokosuka.
 26, M. Struve, German str., for Tamsui.
 26, Perla, British str., for Saigon.
 26, Progress, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Coromandel*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. T. H. Mitchell and H. W. Clarke; for Penang, Mr. J. McKenzie; for Colombo, Mr. S. Chlebnikoff; for Bombay, Mr. K. Rustomjee; for Marseilles, Mr. F. H. Forbes; for London, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Hickmott, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Lister, Messrs. McMeekin, Ivimay, G. McMurdo; from Kobe, for London, Mr. J. Evans.

Per *Yarra*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Rev. R. T. Barmasse and Mr. Clifton; from Colombo, Messrs. Moose, Grabelski, Yesson, Oscar, Wenson, Leeton, Abdulgufoor, S. H. Joseph, J. H. Elias, C. J. Judah, Niel Belsjo, William Vennalholm, and C. J. Nelson; from Saigon, Mrs. Fontaine, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Millon, Messrs. Gras Joseph and W. S. Paterson; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Erdinger, Mr. and Mrs. Marie, daughter and child, Miss Marie, Miss Grand, Messrs. Vialis, Bourboulon, Eyraud, Prevost, Lesage, and Abguillaur; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Bergin and infant, Mrs. and Miss Rosenberg, Mrs. Sebowicz, Mrs. Hirsch, Messrs. J. Hirsch, Schombauin, Liokatir, and P. Varomies; from Singapore, Mrs. Ochnjoo, Mrs. Smidt, Mrs. Berkovitz, Mrs. Rebaka, Mrs. J. Sternberg, Mrs. Therese Barth, Messrs. V. Moosa, Samuel Aro, Caramal, Sapari, Lucas, Ratelier, Bogliano, Venturini, B. Smidt, Brocard, and Obadoosky and 2 children; for Kobe, from Saigon, Mrs. Takano Issa; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. Eynard; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Kellmann.

Per *China* from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. F. C. Arrance, Mr. F. C. Arrance and son, Mrs. J. C. Jenkins and family, Mrs. M. W. Fox, Misses L. M. McElhantion, B. Barin, M. A. Coville and E. C. Kinne, Messrs. T. W. Bartlett, W. E. Bridenstine, G. A. Dragoo, A. S. Flund, R. J. Hazeltine, Hon. J. A. Jenkins, A. A. Nosworthy, Frank Pittraan, A. W. Steven, R. G. Treat, O. G. Wolcott, Geo. N. Anderson, L. C. Balz, L. L. Bernheim, C. H. Crooks, H. F. Engle, M. W. Fox, F. C. Kennedy, John C. Koch, Wm. Mustard, R. F. Nyman, C. S. Lee, B. E. Swam, J. E. Walther, G. M. Zerba, F. E. Green, Wm. Berol, B. B. Barton, W. F. Boyle and infant, W. J. Edmonds, D. G. Gannell, J. J. Heffington, E. C. Koerner, Arthur Wilson, F. H. Pinpstaff, J. L. Sibley, T. M. Temple on, and child, Lieut. A. Dymock, W. Tuthery and F. Berol.

Per *Roan*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Mr. Eugen Frank; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bailey, Messrs. E. P. Moss and Edg. Smalles; from Genoa, Mr. Wilh. Schmidt; from Singapore, Miss Omakah; for Shanghai, from Bremen, Mrs. M. Petersen and Mr. Jos. Seitz; from Antwerp, Mrs. Phil. Uerts and Mr. Eug. Pelion; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Carrie and children, Rev. Bishop and Mrs. Iliff and child, Mrs. J. Ackermann, Misses Ackermann, Messrs. J. Ackermann, jr., A. J. Gregory, and Renee Teale; from Genoa, Messrs. J. G. Anderson, H. Allan, A. Allan, Ad. Botcher, Jos. Hausherr, E. Kothe, M. Neubrunn, Chas. Nicolini, Ad. Schilling, and W. S. Y. Ting; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. C. Potter, Miss Manowski, Messrs. H. St. John Wilding and B. Wevel; from Colombo, Mr. S. Greenstein; from Penang, Mr. K. Markwick; from Singapore, Mrs. Mc Bain, Miss M. McBain, Masters G. and W. McBain, Mrs. Vantell and children, Misses J.

Adelaide, E. Gerta, and B. Jeanette, Messrs. M. Baring, A. V. Brown, and R. S. Freemann; for Nagasaki, from Genoa, Mrs. Yowahocke Yoha; from Singapore, Messrs. Hashimoto and Kuri-saki, Misses O. Hadiana, Ohmato, Ohkei, and Ohkano; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mrs. Osigak; for Yokohama, from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. S. Witkowski, Mr. E. Sielmann, and Dr. R. Oyama; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hendry; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. S. Leonard, and Mr. H. Tsuda.

Per *Zieten*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Blount, Mrs. Kimber, Messrs. Ulex and G. Negishi, Misses Davis and Sereston; from Kobe, Messrs. W. Keller, L. Heed, L. Knudsen, C. Ulrich, A. Loisca, and T. Tho; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Jadzards and family and Mr. Chas. Zumsun; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Burton, Lieut. S. Mousson, Miss Alvas, Messrs. W. V. Graham, Coussens, Korndorfer, S. S. Selik, A. da Cruz, A. Puccini, Economon, and James Kite; from Foochow, Mr. Railpad.

DEPARTED.

Per *Mongolia*, for Amoy, Mr. L. R. Thomas; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sontham, Sir Hiram Wilkinson, Dr. R. E. Chambers, Lieut. G. W. Kline, Messrs. M. H. Michael, W. Bridie, H. S. Locksmith, J. E. Reid, J. W. White, A. Humphreys, H. Phillips, J. H. Derbyshire, C. Bryan, and F. Ellis; for Nagasaki, Mrs. W. A. Ward and Mr. N. Inouye; for Kobe, Mrs. M. Iike, Messrs. F. D. Bain and E. H. Sharp; for Yokohama, Mrs. I. Silberman, Misses Lily and Rosie Silberman, Lieut. and Mrs. L. B. Purcell, Mrs. McDougall, Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Handy, Messrs. S. Saito, T. D. McKay, F. C. Gratwick, and Major Yokuda; for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Ballantine, Mrs. W. H. Mitchell, Mrs. G. Reyes Lala, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Teall, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Carvalho, Mrs. J. S. Van Buren, Mrs. M. Seely, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Morroh, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thebant and infant, Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. Barlow and son, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Selden and family, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Abbott, Mrs. H. Adamson, Misses Olive, Rita, and Albert Adamson, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Neely, Profs. W. H. Munro and A. Moossy, Rev. W. A. Stanton, Drs. J. W. Noble, L. S. Thompson, and R. Gibson, Misses Trom, McCrory, and May Stone, Messrs. C. A. A. Dudok De Wit, W. R. Reber, Wm. Davidson, Emile Agaton, A. F. Eastman, H. H. Murphy, A. A. Montague, F. J. Mc. Glinchey, W. M. Chadburn, E. H. Groene, Rowland Lowe, E. A. Magie, F. C. Bell, F. E. Dominguez, F. J. Mitchell, and F. W. Keith and family.

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